OSWESTRY & BORDER
# CHRONICLE
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## Strike to hit schools and local councils

SCHOOLS and councils face further disruption today (Thursday) after the National Union of Teachers said that it would take strike action along with other public sector unions.

A one-day strike affecting Shropshire and Mid Wales has been called following a long-running row with the Government over pay, pensions and conditions.

It follows a similar one-day strike by the profession's biggest union which led to the closure of Welshpool High School last week.

Civil servants and firefighters are to join the strike after voting to support industrial action.

Members of the Public and Commercial Services Union voted by 3-1 in favour of stoppages and will now take part in the day of action, set to be the biggest walkout over pay faced by the Government since it came to office.

Public sector union Unison also intends to join the action following a strike ballot.

The walkouts will leave schools with the prospect of losing teachers to strike action as well as support staff like classroom assistants, caretakers and kitchen staff.

The Department for Education said there was "no justification" for striking. Shropshire Council was unavailable to comment.

## CCTV review starts in bid to cut crime

A REVIEW of the use of CCTV across Mid Wales is to be carried out as police bosses work on new plans to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

Security specialists Instrom have won the contract to research CCTV provision across the whole of the Dyfed-Powys Police force area.

The work is funded by Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Christopher Salmon and county councils.

Mr Salmon said: "Down the years public bodies have installed a variety of CCTV systems. The police supported it, without funding, and now I'd like a coordinated approach across Dyfed-Powys – that's efficient at a cost agreeable to all."

## Town's oldest supermarket set to close doors

The Spar store in Welshpool

WELSHPOOL'S oldest supermarket will close its doors for the very last time next month.

Blakemore Retail, the company which owns the Spar store in Church Street, has released a statement to its suppliers confirming the closure.

In a letter Julie Jordan, a senior accountants clerk at Blakemore Retail, said the store would cease trading on August 3.

Although staff would not speak about the closure, it is believed they were told last week of the closure and have been told to find new jobs.

Welshpool Town Councillor Estelle Bleivas, said: "It means that the elderly and disabled who rely on a shop on that corner are going to have to go even further for a shop, especially to pay their PayPoint bills.

"The Spar has been a part of the town for a long time, but how can they compete with the likes of Tesco and the other big stores?

"I know staff have been offered jobs in other stores but some of them are a distance to travel."

"This will mean we could have four, five or six people all fighting for jobs in Welshpool, but where are they?"

Mayor Councillor Malcolm Douglass said: "This is a devastating blow for the town it really is."It's also another blow for employment in the town if staff are going to lose their jobs. I guess if there was free car parking in the area then things might be different."

Welshpool Town councillor and Powys County Councillor Phil Pritchard said: "When the one-way system was originally drawn up the flower beds and phone box in Church Street were due to be turned into a pull-in for people to park there to go to the Spar, but that was subsequently left out of the final plans."

No-one from Spar was available for comment.

# POLICE SUPPORT KNIFE AMNESTY

**THREE major police forces have given their backing to a ground-breaking knife crime campaign being led by an Oswestry businessman.**

The police support for Clive Knowles's "Save a Life, Surrender Your Knife" campaign comes as preparations are being made for a poignant football match in tribute to a young Chirk father who lost his life to a knife attack in Oswestry last year.

**by Iain St John**

The football match in honour of 21-year-old Danny Jones will take place in Chirk tomorrow evening (Friday) and organisers are urging as many people as possible to attend to show their support for his family and for the new anti-knife campaign.

Mr Knowles and staff at his company the British Ironwork Centre, based at Aston near Oswestry, have developed the knife campaign to encourage young people both locally and nationally to give up their weapons and to raise awareness of the wide-reaching impact of knife crime upon the lives of all those affected.

### Angel

The firm are creating knife banks and will be visiting inner cities such as Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham to speak to street gangs to urge members to give up their weapons.

Surrendered knives will be used to create a spectacular 15-24 feet tall angel statue in memory of those whose lives have been tragically lost. Mr Knowles said he had been careful to seek the guidance of the police to ensure that their campaign complements their efforts and says he was delighted to receive positive support and encouragement from West Mercia, West Midlands and Greater Manchester police forces.

Chief Inspector Paul Moxley from West Mercia Police has visited the British Ironwork Centre to speak to Mr Knowles about the campaign and to have a look at the more than 30 weapons already given up to the firm.

The officer wore a specially designed campaign T-shirt to indicate the force's support for the initiative while a West Midlands Police spokesman said the force supported the campaign which ties in with a recent initiative it had been carrying out to tackle knife crime.

Mr Knowles said: "We have been hugely reassured to learn of the support for our project from police forces around the country. We have been keen to consult them, to benefit from their specialist knowledge and to ensure the health and safety of all involved in our project.

"We have had some interesting in-depth meetings and discussions from which we have learned a great deal, and would like to thank West Mercia, West Midlands and Greater Manchester Police forces and their Police and Crime Commissioners for their invaluable input."

Mr Knowles said he had travelled to Manchester on Friday last week to speak to families affected by knife crime.

Among those attending the talks were Chirk mother Lisa McNeil, mother of Danny Jones, the family of Fusilier David Lee Collins from Manchester who died after being stabbed outside a Cyprus nightclub and the mother of Birmingham rapper Joshua Ribera, who used the stage name Depzman, and who died after being stabbed.

Mr Knowles said: "It was a very emotional meeting. To have these mothers meeting for the first time, to think what they had gone through was very emotional."

Clive Knowles and Chief Inspector Paul Moxley of West Mercia Police

## Plenty of food and drink at festival

OSWESTRY Food & Drink Festival will be going global this weekend with a host of new exhibitors lined up to tempt the tastebuds with a range of exotic cuisine.

The festival will be hitting the town centre's streets from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday with new traders including Padian Far Eastern specialising in Southeast Asian, Malaysian and Indonesian cuisine; Sabor Amor, produces of stunning Spanish food; and Mukaase with their African sauces.

Other exhibitors will include locally brewed drinks from the town's Stonehouse Brewery, Berriew Cider, Mahoral Cider from Ludlow, Twelve Green Bottles wine merchant and Rosie's Triple D from Llandegla.

Entry to the festival is free and stalls will line the town centre streets and Bailey Head outdoor market.

A festival fringe will be taking place outside the main shopping area as celebrity chef Marcus Bean will be launching his pop-up restaurant at Scholars in Walford & North Shropshire College, Shrewsbury Road, on Saturday.

To kick off the festival, in partnership with West Shropshire CAMRA and Cambrian Heritage Railways, there will be a tutored beer tasting at Oswestry Station on Friday , and tastings through Saturday and Sunday.

## Companies in the running for awards

SEVERAL Welshpool area companies have been shortlisted for the Powys Business Awards.

GloverSure, of Welshpool, has been nominated for a small business award, while Powys Guns, also of Welshpool and The Nags Head Inn, Garthmyl, are in line for start-up awards. Wipak UK and Sporting Hares are named for entrepreneurship awards.

Cambrian Training Company is nominated for a community award and Anne Smith of Harrisons Solicitors could win an outstanding mentor award. Maxim Bikes, Taste Montgomery and Stadco are shortlisted.

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## PICTURE PREVIEW

Pals turn out to support a Welshpool High School pupil who organised a prom day. Turn to page 9

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# Carer who stole from his step father spared prison

**by Andrew Morris**

**AN alcoholic carer who stole money from his step-father to fund his drinking has been spared immediate imprisonment.**

Darren Jethro Basford, 40, had been trusted to use his step-father William Henry Wilkinson's bank cards to withdraw money and pay for shopping while acting as his main carer, for which he was paid £80 a week.

But Mold Crown Court heard how Basford made a series of withdrawals for his own use and hid his victim's bank statements so that he would not realise what was going on.

Basford, originally from Welshpool but now living at Lant Avenue, Llandrindod Wells, admitted nine charges of theft at an earlier hearing and was given a 12 month prison sentence, suspended for two years at Mold Crown Court on Friday.

He was placed on supervision but the judge said that compensation was unrealistic because he would not be able to pay it off in a reasonable time scale.

Judge Rhys Rowlands said that it was a "breach of a high degree of trust."

The defendant had repeatedly stolen from his step-father and had got away with £2,360.

His victim was 81 with limited mobility and the defendant was paid and trusted to act as his carer.

"You repaid that trust by using his money as your own, spending it on drink behind his back," the judge told him.

The judge said that he had admitted what he had done, had spent a period in hospital to detoxify and he added: "I am told that you encouraged your step-father to report this matter to the police."

## Flying fete visit for air cadet members

YOUNG RAF hopefuls put on a show for attendees of the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital fete, and enjoyed the "flight of a lifetime" at the same time.

Cadets of the 1165 Oswestry Air Training Corps, who have their headquarters in Upper Willow Street, arrived at the fete by helicopter last Saturday, as their fellow cadets helped ready the site for visitors.

The second group were whisked away at 4pm, flying over Shropshire, back to RAF Shawbury.

Rob Evans, a civilian instructor with 1165 Oswestry Air Training Corps, said: "We've been trying to secure a flight for the cadets in one of these helicopters for ages, so for them to finally get their chance was brilliant.

" We also had cadets out doing their Duke of Edinburgh Award, and they happened to be on the helicopter's flight path.

"I think they had quite a surprise when they saw us."

## Jackie planning retirement ride

Dr Jackie Leather, from Treflach, preparing for a charity bike ride

WHEN Doctor Jacky Leather retires from work she will be riding out of town - for charity.

For Dr Leather will end her 25 years at Oswestry's Caxton Surgery with a charity cycle ride to raise money for Severn Hospice.

Dr Leather, 58, will cycle from her home in Treflach on August 1 to the Severn Hospice in Shrewsbury, accompanied by her daughter Ruth.

She said: "Over the years, many of my patients and their friends and relatives have received wonderful care and support from Severn Hospice and I wanted to give something back in return.

"I am often spotted riding along the lanes around Treflach so a sponsored bike ride seemed appropriate.

"It would be wonderful to surpass my £500 target so a donation, however small, would be very gratefully appreciated."

Mike Perry, community fundraising advisor for Severn Hospice, said: "We are truly grateful to Dr Leather for all she is doing to support the vital work of the hospice.

"As an independent charity we have to rely on the generosity of others to help us continue to care for local people at their time of greatest need."

Anyone wanting to sponsor Dr Leather can do so by visiting her JustGiving web page at www.justgiving.com/Jacky-Leather1/ or entering 'Jacky Leather' into the JustGiving search box.

Severn Hospice is an independent charity giving specialist care and support, free of charge, to families across Shropshire and North Powys who are living with an incurable illness.

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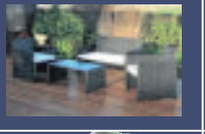

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# Town pub to host a cider festival

CIDER fans will be able to enjoy a range of draught ciders from England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland during an Oswestry pub's cider festival.

The festival will take place at The Wilfred Owen in Willow Street from tomorrow (Friday) to July 27, kicking off on the eve of the town's food festival.

Pub manager Christian Haigh said: "We'll be offering a range of ciders over the 17 days, including some never previously available in the pub and others produced exclusively for the festival.

"Cider is the perfect summer drink and I am certain that people will enjoy our fantastic selection. The ciders have been sourced from across the UK and there is something to suit all palates."

The selection will feature apple, pear and fruit ciders, and include award-winning ciders, together with those with unusual flavours; beetroot, rhubarb, ginger and chilli, apple and raspberry and whisky cask cider.

Among those on offer are; Boxing Dog by Mr Whitehead's Cider Co, Somerset Tree Shaker by Shepton Mallet Cider Mill, Hogfather by Orchard Pig, Doctors Orders by Green Valley Cider Ltd, Pear Shaped by Sandford Orchards, and Whisky Cask by Thistly Cross Cider.

# Fire safety events held

CHILDREN have been learning all about fire safety during a week of activities.

Oswestry firefighters attended school assemblies at Whittington, Weston Rhyn and Gobowen, in Oswestry Town Centre and the Oswestry Fun House as part of the Crucial Crew scheme.

# Thugs who terrorised woman are spared jail

**by Nathan Rowden**

**TWO thugs who terrorised a 60-year-old woman by smashing her windows and shouting abuse at her have been spared jail.**

Stephen Kenneth Gillibrand, 25, and Shaun Greenhaulgh, 27, were in Welshpool delivering Christmas presents on December 30 when they called at the home of Monica Zacharski on Gilmore Court, looking for her son Dominic who they said owed Gillibrand money.

At Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday prosecutor Helen Tench, said the men approached Mrs Zacharski's house shouting.

"They were banging on the door so hard she thought it was going to cave in. They were shouting abuse through the door. She ran upstairs to call 999 and heard glass breaking.

"She now lives in constant fear that they will come back and attack her."

Gillibrand, who had lived in Welshpool before moving to Manchester, was said to have given Mr Zacharski £85 during his time in the town.

In a victim personal statement Mrs Zacharski said: "The effects still haunt me. I found it terrifying and thought they were coming into my house to attack me. Since this I live in fear."

Ceri Evans, for Greenhaulgh said he admitted he had smashed the glass trying to lure Mr Zacharski out of the house. "He does accept his actions were wholly unnecessary," she said.

Paul Inns, for Gillibrand, said: "He said he lost his temper when he heard Dominic wasn't there. He regrets his actions and does apologies for his behaviour."

Gillibrand, of Stradbroke Close, Gorton, Manchester, and Greenhaulgh, of Oak Street, Bolton, had admitted charges of using threatening and insulting words, and causing criminal damage at a previous hearing at Welshpool.

Sentencing the duo, Sue Jerman, chairman of the bench, said: "You acted together and there was a purpose for you attacking the property. The impact on this woman has been immense and she has ongoing vulnerability and nervousness in her own home."

The pair were given a 12 week prison sentence suspended for 12 months and were given a restraining order not to make contact with Mrs Zacharski or go within 100 meters of her home.

They will each have to pay £150 each to the victim, costs of £85 and a victim surcharge of £80, as well as doing 150 hours unpaid work.

# Concern at shortage of town loos

OSWESTRY'S lack of public toilets is becoming a concern for some of its residents, and one has accused the town of "going backwards".

John Oliver said one morning last week four different people stopped him to ask where the nearest toilets were.

He said he was ashamed to tell them that none were available.

He said: "I've lived in the town since 1956, and it looks like Oswestry has gone backwards. There are more people living here than ever before, but we have fewer services.

"A friend of mine has prostate problems and has to have a bucket in the back of his van to go in because there aren't any toilets.

"This is about the only place I've been to where there isn't a public toilet in the bus station. I think in this day and age there should be more than one public toilet in Oswestry, especially as that one is closed on a Sunday.

"Even Ellesmere, which is smaller than Oswestry, has a toilet that is open on a Sunday, and has two toilets."

Glenys Davies of Oswestry Town Council said the council was currently unable to do anything to supply more public toilets in the town.

"As with many things these days, the issue is one of cost," she said.

# Cyclists called for charity ride

Hope House Fundraisers Lynsey Kilvert and Sarah Johnson get on their bikes at Lake Vyrnwy

AS the summer holidays approach, families are being encouraged to get on their bikes and cycle around a scenic part of Mid Wales to raise cash for a children's charity.

Hope House Children's Hospice is calling on everyone to dust off their bikes and join them for a cycle challenge around Lake Vyrnwy to celebrate the start of summer.

The School's Out sponsored bike ride will take place on July 20 at 10am and will follow a 12-mile route on the roads around the beauty spot.

Fundraising Manager Vanessa Thomas said: "We are hoping that families will join us to celebrate the start of the summer holidays. It should be a fantastic event, and every penny raised in sponsorship will help us to continue to provide vital care services to terminally ill local children and their families."

Free refreshments will be provided along the ride. Entry costs £5 for adults to register and children can take part for free. For more experienced cyclists a longer and more gruelling ride will take place on August 17 .

To enter either event call the Hope House fundraising office for an entry form on (01691) 671671 or sign up online at **www.hopehouse.org.uk/events**

## NEWS in brief

### Man threatened woman with knife

A WOMAN was threatened with a 10-inch kitchen knife on her way to work in Oswestry, a court has heard.

Kristopher John Jenkins of Maple Avenue, Oswestry, admitted causing actual bodily harm to Margaret Edwards and threatening her with the blade, on the public footpath over the old Cambrian Railway line at Coney Green, between Black Gate Street and Bridgeman Road at 6.30am on October 10.

Jenkins, 23, entered guilty pleas at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Monday after previously denying both charges.

He was granted conditional bail until sentencing on August 15 including a 7pm-7am curfew.

### Teen is arrested in assault case

A 15-year-old male from Newtown has been arrested on suspicion of assaulting a fellow teenager.

The incident occurred outside the Cann Office Hotel in Llangadfan, near Welshpool, in the early hours of Sunday.

The victim, a 16-year-old male, received head injuries in the attack and needed hospital treatment. PC Kevin Jones, of Dyfed Powys Police, is appealing for anyone who may have witnessed the incident to call 101. The suspect has been released on bail pending further enquiries.

### Farm prepares for summer visitors

A FAMILY attraction near Oswestry is preparing for a summer of fun with new activities ready to open later this month.

Park Hall Countryside Farm has been carefully watering its popular maize maze throughout the year and the living puzzle will be ready to be explored on July 18.

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## AGM

The Annual General Meeting of The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Oswestry, SY10 7AG will be held at 2pm on Thursday 31st July 2014, in the hospital's conference facilities. This will include the Annual General Meeting of the Trust's Governors.

Presentations from the Chairman, Trust Board and Nursing Staff. Refreshments from 2pm - all welcome. Annual Report & Accounts available at the AGM or on request. For enquiries, please contact Gayle Murphy 01691 404394.

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## NEWS

Michael John Lloyd

# Fraudster stole from mother-in-law

AN 84-year-old woman whose son-in-law stole her £8,000 life savings will be 90 by the time he pays it all back, a court heard.

Doris Mansell, of Ludlow, who suffers from vascular dementia was betrayed by Michael John Lloyd over a period of seven months.

Unbeknown to his wife Linda, who kept her mother's post office card in her purse, he had been stealing it and drawing money out behind her back.

Deceitful Lloyd had spotted his wife entering the pin number and used it during the offence magistrates branded "an unpleasant breach of trust".

It was not until Mrs Lloyd discovered money missing from the account and called police that her husband was linked to the crime.

Lloyd admitted fraud before Telford Magistrates, who ordered him to pay back the full amount - at a rate of £25 a week.

Following the hearing, Mrs Mansell's grand daughters said the elderly woman had been "cheated out of justice" as she would be 90 by the time the total was repaid.

Lloyd, 45, of Belle Vue, Morda, Oswestry had defrauded his mother-in-law between November 2013 and May 2014.

Chair of magistrates Mrs Sue Tyrrell told Lloyd: "This was an unpleasant breach of trust and theft and we are aware you are paying a heavy price for it in estrangement from your family."

She sentenced him to a 12 month supervision order, with 100 hours of unpaid work and ordered him to pay back the £8,230 at a rate of £25 a week plus a victim surcharge of £60.

# Concerned villagers in visit to campaign session

**by Iain St John**

**OPPOSITION is continuing to grow from near and far against plans to drill for gas in north Shropshire's countryside, campaigners say.**

The upbeat message came after a "steady stream" of worried residents attended a drop-in session on Friday organised by campaigners to find out how they can effectively object to the energy plans.

The two-hour drop-in session was organised at Criftins Parish Hall by members of Frack Free Dudleston.

The campaign group has been set up in opposition to plans by Dart Energy to drill a temporary coal bed methane exploration borehole north west of The Brooklands, Dudleston, near Ellesmere.

Protesters are worried that the test drilling will lead to a larger operation to extract the coal bed methane and could also open the door for controversial "fracking", or hydraulic fracturing, for shale gas.

More than 100 people have so far formally objected to Shropshire Council to the plans to drill the temporary coal bed methane exploration borehole.

Jean Hesketh, co-ordinator for Frack Free Dudleston, said the number of people who attended to find out how they should object reflected the growing concern about the plans.

She said: "We have had a steady stream of people coming in to get advice on what grounds they can object on.

"This is a concern both locally and nationally and that concern is growing as more people understand what is going on."

Dart Energy denies it has any plans at the moment to explore for shale gas in the county, even though north Shropshire sits on both coal and shale, saying it is currently interested in coal bed methane only.

## Football club holds fun day

THE New Saints FC will hold a fun day in a park ahead of their UEFA Champions League tie in Slovakia.

Members of the Oswestry-based club's first team will be in Cae Glas Park from noon on Saturday to sign autographs and pose for pictures with the Corbett Sports Welsh Premier League trophy and the FAW Welsh Cup.

Other activities will include face painting, a bouncy castle, speed shot inflatable, Zumba and a penalty shoot out competition with prizes to be won. There will also be a competition to win a signed life sized picture of player Greg Draper.

There will also be a specific area for football sessions with the Little Saints, Senior Saints, Mini Saints and Junior Saints."

Fans will be able to buy tickets for the UEFA Champions League match against SK Slovan Bratislava on July 22

## Family donate hospital bench

Lynn Henman presents a wooden bench to the hospital in memory of her son

THE mother of a tetraplegic man who died last year has unveiled a bench in his honour.

Lynn Henman has placed the bench at Oswestry's Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in memory of her son, Dene Henman, who died aged 46 last year.

Mr Henman, who was epileptic, became a tetraplegic - a condition in which movement is restricted in all four limbs - in November 1991 as the result of a severe neck injury incurred during a fit.

After becoming disabled, Dene received much of his care in Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Mrs Henman said: "Dene was well loved by the staff on MCSI (Midland Centre for Spinal Injuries) and we wanted to donate something in his memory."

Ward manger Julie Haughton said: "Dene was challenged in so many different ways however his personality always shone through. He was always smiling."


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# County a hotspot for UFO sightings police reveal

by Pam Kingsley

**POWYS is becoming a hotbed of UFO sightings according to figures released by the police.**

UFOs have been spotted regularly in the sky in the past four years, with ghostly activity also prompting 999 calls.

The data, released by Dyfed-Powys Police, includes a caller from Welshpool who reported seeing a UFO "dropping in the distance," and a caller from Llanymynech complaining of objects being moved around the house and the attic door being found open.

There were two reports of UFOs in the police force area last year.

Sian George, Dyfed-Powys Police spokeswoman, said: "Appropriate action is taken in respect of all calls, and enquiries conducted if appropriate and necessary."

Over the past four years, the force has received a number of calls in relation to strange goings on, including one about sheep abduction.

The caller claimed they had seen sheep being taken on board an unidentified flying object from a field in Llanybydder, near Lampeter.

In the same year, 2011, a caller from Aberystwyth reported they were previously abducted by aliens, experimented on, then returned to earth.

### Sightings

It brings the total number of UFO sightings reported in the force area, which is home to a sightings hotspot once dubbed "the Welsh triangle" to 27 since 2002.

Powys isn't alone in being a hotspot for UFO sightings - Shropshire has its own X-Files incident.

At about 1.15am on March 31, 1993, in what has been dubbed the Cosford Incident, there were dozens of sightings across western Britain of triangular shaped UFOs moving across the sky at speed.

An MoD police patrol reported seeing bright lights in the sky over RAF Cosford.

The officers called the meteorological officer at Shawbury to tell him to look out for a UFO. He then claimed to have seen "a vast triangular shaped craft flying at about 200ft" which made a low humming noise and fired a narrow beam of light which swept the ground.

Meanwhile, in September 2010, Joshua Lester-Rigg said he witnessed "a huge fireball" crossing the sky and plummeting down to earth in Stirchley, Telford. "I don't know if what I saw was a UFO or a meteorite," he said.

# Safety first for young swimmers

HUNDREDS of children in Oswestry have been given serious lifesaving messages – but in a fun way.

As the summer holidays approach the Royal Life Saving Society has just held its annual drowning prevention week.

Swimming teachers at Oswestry Leisure Centre used the week to make sure children that use the pool, learnt important safety messages before they headed for holidays at the beach or a day by the river.

Karen Rogers, who heads the swim teaching at the centre, said all the children loved the activities that were put on during their swimming lessons.

She said that there were worrying statistics about drowning.

"Accidental drowning causes more than 400 UK deaths every year, is the third highest cause of death in children and claims the lives of at least 360,000 people worldwide each year. Almost half of child drownings in Britain take place during school holidays."

"We put the emphasis on fun to make sure that our swimming students would remember the messages."

"We have about 700 on our books and almost everyone brought along t-shirts for the swimming lessons, to show just how difficult it is to swim in your clothes."

Children were also taught rescue techniques from the side of the pool.

# Garden owners turn back clock

Mike and Ali McInroy-Edwards in their 1940s garden

A 1940s Dig for Victory garden has been recreated in Llanyblodwel and will be welcoming in visitors for the first time this weekend.

Green Hares' Ley has several gardens, each of which has a different look and feel.

Owners Ali and Mike McInroy-Edwards have spent the winter and spring recreating the 1940s garden for visitors to get a taste of wartime Britain, and are now opening their doors to visitors.

Ali said: "The Dig for Victory garden is a developing project which alongside the production of vegetables contains a replica Anderson shelter, chicken run, potting shed, privy and other period features.

"The gardens are an evolving venture attempting to encourage a more relaxed and simple approach.

"We'll be collecting donations to help towards the restoration of Llanyblodwel and Porthymaen war memorial which records residents of the parish who fell in the First World War

Food grown in the garden will be served.

All the gardens will be open to the public with free admission on July 12, 13, 26 and 27 from 10am to 5pm.

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## BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

This week's news that the Spar supermarket is to close is another major blow for Welshpool.

The news comes close on the heels of the sale of WR Davies (Motors), another long standing town business, and there's no hiding the reason why both businesses hit trouble.

The garage owners sold out after failing to compete with fuel prices at the new Tesco superstore and Spar bosses were forced to cut staff levels soon after the new store opened.

The one-way system has also had a big effect on trade at the Spar, Welshpool's oldest supermarket. With traffic only approaching from one direction and motorists no longer able to pull-up outside footfall has dropped dramatically.

It's a sad day for the town and a very sad day for the store's loyal staff. The Spar has stood at the entrance to the town's main car park for decades and will be badly missed by shoppers.

Tesco sells just about everything that is on offer from other town retailers and these latest closures were predicted. It's also no surprise that Morrisons are now offering free parking and free trollies – a sign that business is not what it should be.

The reality is that nothing stands in the way of change and nothing stands in the way of fair trade either. After all when the Spar arrived in Welshpool it had the same effect on many small businesses as Tesco has now.

. . . . . .

Roads in Shropshire and Mid Wales are getting safer according to figures released by the Institute for Advanced Motoring. Well you could have fooled me!

Deaths and injuries are down, reflecting a national trend, but that certainly doesn't mean driving has improved. If the Institute suits thinks it has they are seriously wrong.

Let me suggest they spend a bit of their next survey cruising the roads between Welshpool, Oswestry and Shrewsbury. There they are likely to witness some incredibly risky overtaking manoeuvres on a daily basis. Just because these idiotic drivers live to tell the tale doesn't mean our roads are any safer.

. . . . . .

Great news for Clive Knowles of the British Ironworks Centre at Oswestry this week with three major police forces putting their weight behind his campaign for an amnesty on knives.

Clive is one of those incredible guys who come up with outrageous ideas and then somehow manages to follow them through. Now he has the backing of West Mercia, West Midlands and Greater Manchester Police Forces for his idea to create a sculpture made of knives.

Sixth formers chat over their studies in the common room at the Marches School

Luke Mackenzie and Hannah Smith chat over a drink in the sixth form common room

Inside the new sixth form common room area at the Marches School

# Leap of faith pays off for sixth form pupils

**The 40 sixth form students awaiting their AS results say decision was justified. SUE AUSTIN reports**

**IT WAS a leap of faith for a group of teenagers from Oswestry.**

They chose the sixth form at the Marches School to study for AS and A levels while their new centre was still a building site and before staff had been put in place.

But the 40 students who are now awaiting their AS results say their decision has been justified.

And such has been the success of the sixth form that 140 students have applied to begin their further education there in September.

In September 2013 The Marches School became the first academy school in the county, to open a sixth form offering A level studies.

It was heralded as the next exciting step for the school, which has more than 1,200 students, following the change to an academy in August 2012.

### Lectures

This week sees the first group of students, fresh from their AS exams, already beginning their lectures and studies for their A levels.

Their sixth form centre, for decades the residential care home, Fairholme, is unrecognisable from its former guise.

Bedrooms and communal living areas were transformed to provide the sixth formers with their own base.

For although many of the students have their lectures in classrooms in the main school, their study areas, common room, exam room and small tutorial rooms are completely separate from the school giving the older students their own identity.

Sixth form students from the Marches School in Oswestry are eagerly waiting for the first examination results

The colour schemes and other designs, chosen by Marches pupils in the run up to the building work, is young and fresh while a clever balance has been achieved between the study room with its bank of computers and the common room.

There students can combine more relaxed study with making themselves tea and toast or snacks in the kitchen area.

Here students talked about their decision to choose the sixth form, before it was even built.

Luke Mackensie, 17, from Oswestry said: "I already knew the teachers and thought that would help. They already knew my abilities and it seemed a natural progression for me."

Initially Zoe Entwistle, 16, from Oswestry went to Yale in Wrexham to study but found it wasn't for her.

"I felt very anonymous and decided to return to the Marches. It is a very close sixth form, we do all get on together and the staff are very good at charting our progress."

One of the sixth form presidents, Rhianne Lloyd, said the sixth formers had been involved in fundraising in the community.

"As part of our National Citizenship Project we raised money to buy Christmas presents for children at the Orthopaedic Hospital and then went to the hospital and did crafts and other activities with the young patients."

Now starting their A-levels studies the current students are looking forward to welcoming the new intake of AS students in September.

Head of sixth form, Claire Buckle said: "We have had over 140 applications for Year 12 in September and we were delighted to host a taster day at school for our prospective students.

"They experienced life in the sixth form, sampled lessons in all subjects and socialised with the current sixth form students, who will be their colleagues next year.

"As a result of our ever-expanding sixth form, we have made two new appointments to the team, both current teachers at the Marches."

"It is almost impossible to believe that the first year of the Marches sixth form is coming to a close. It is equally difficult to believe how much we have packed into this academic year.

"It is the Induction Day tomorrow (Friday) – an opportunity for prospective sixth formers to attend taster sessions in the subjects they hope to study and mix with their peers."

The expected huge influx in numbers in September not only means more staff but also new classrooms.

Painters and other workers are busy converting more of the old Fairholme building into new classroom areas and lecture rooms in time for September.

### Painting

Even the sixth form "piazza" has been given a make over.

Staff from Barclays took part in a "groundforce" day, painting the outside courtyard and planting new shrubs.

One of the members of the sixth form staff, Wayne Young said the piazza was popular with the students. He said he was excited about the coming 12 months.

"The sixth form is going from strength to strength. We have students who have spent their first year elsewhere and who are coming back to us for their second year.

"We have other students from as far away as Baschurch, Wrexham and Powys who want to join us."

## WORKING FOR YOU

Glyn Davies MP

In common with everyone else, readers of the Oswestry and Borders Chronicle will have been shocked and revolted by what has emerged into public view about the predatory sexual activities of Jimmy Savile and Rolf Harris.

I was a fan of both men as great entertainers. It is hard to believe when people we admire turn out not to be what we thought they were. At home we have a photograph of our children, when they were young with Savile and we met him on a ferry trip.

Unknown to us at the time, he was a repulsive monster. Shockingly, some people knew - and said nothing. They are guilty as well.

Now we have heard suggestions that there was sexual predation of children by leading politicians 30ish years ago.

Even more shocking is a suggestion that there may have been a cover up by senior politicians, parliamentary whips and leading civil servants. It is even being suggested that 114 files may have been improperly destroyed - though there is no real evidence that this is true.

Rumours of this sort have to be addressed. As well as being serious crimes against children, the suggestion of a cover up does terrible damage to our parliamentary democracy.

Thankfully, the Home Secretary, Theresa May, has moved quickly to discover the truth. There will be an immediate inquiry, reporting in ten weeks, into how information given to the police and Parliament has been handled.

A much more wide ranging inquiry into historical child sex abuse, in the media, the NHS and elsewhere, headed by retired senior judge, Elizabeth Butler Sloss is being set up.

She has great experience and will be supported by a leading QC and panel of experts. All this will cost a lot of money, but we have to find out what has happened, no matter how uncomfortable it may be.

We have a duty of care for our children. A stone has been lifted and we have found evil underneath it. Parents and grandparents will be appalled. Parliament has a duty to expose and punish.

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**Q:** I have a bicycle repair and hire business in a tourist area which I set up two years ago after being made redundant. It has gone really well and I am now thinking of branching out into building tailor-made bikes. Due to the specialist nature of this I feel I would benefit from having a website that could promote the business far and wide. However, as I will be using photographs that won't necessarily represent the tailor made products that people will be buying, I am wondering whether I should include any special terms and conditions of sale on my website?

**A:** There are extra obligations on business owners who sell goods online and generally all goods sold must correspond with their description. As your bikes are handmade you should point out to the consumer that those shown may differ in appearance, colour etc. Photographs should carry a similar disclaimer.

Providing accurate product information up front to consumers prior to a contract of sale being concluded is in fact a legal obligation, as is the requirement to inform them of the exact price payable, including any taxes, prior to delivery of the goods. From 13th June 2014 under the Consumer Contracts Regulations 2013 you must also promise to deliver the goods within 30 days of the order being placed and allow a 14 day cooling off period during which the consumer can cancel their order without reason and return the goods (at their own expense).

If you fail to inform consumers on your website about their right to cancel their order/contract after receipt of the goods, the cooling off period is extended by an additional 12 months from 14 days. To provide yourself with better protection you should have a solicitor consider the terms and conditions prior to putting them on your website.

Further information relating to this question is available from Nicholas Kennan, a Solicitor Advocate with GHP Legal.
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# Where have the toilets all gone?

I'VE lived in Oswestry since 1956. One Sunday at 8.10am I was walking by the bus station and four people stopped me and asked where the nearest toilet was. I was ashamed to tell them there are none open in the town centre on a Sunday.

During the week we have two public toilets, one in the main car park, one in Market Hall when it's open.

You have to pay on the car park and it only has one disabled toilet.

All towns of our size have toilets by bus depots and have signs to direct you to public toilets. What are people supposed to do on a Sunday?The council chamber of trade are trying to attract people to Oswestry.

Also on Sunday you could receive a parking fine, as traffic wardens patrol Red Square car park, which our council has no control over, all other parks are free on Sunday. I thought our council is forward thinking I don't think so!

When I came to Oswestry in 1956 the public toilets were at Coal Warf Beatrice St, Bailey Head, Clwyd Entry, Crossville Bus Station, Station Platform and Cattle Market. It looks like Oswestry has gone backwards – there are more people in the town but less services.

I wonder if there is anything that could be done to help this situation. Please try to help attract people to our lovely town.

**JOHN OLIVER**
**Oswestry**

# Christians guilty too

YOUR correspondent Ron Jones alludes to me in the letters column of last week's Oswestry & Border Chronicle.

In his letter, he states that he was brought up as a Christian and became one also.

At what age he became Christian and which sect he is a member of he does not say.

I agree with Mr Jones that Christians have been persecuted.

But they have done the same to others too.

**ALLAN TUCKER**
**Oswestry**

# Putting the record straight on letter

THANKS go to P Pascoe for correcting me as regards the correct body to complain to and all the attendant information.

But you have missed the point entirely.

My letter was about justice and common-sense not the EU, my letter which was printed only in part was an attack on jobsworths being more interested in detail, rather than human life.

When rigid rules become more important than people there is something very wrong.

If he feels this also applies to the EU he has read many other peoples minds.

I am not anti-EU or Ukip, although attitudes like this will persuade many to change.

I saw in the Daily Mail on Monday that a banker was trying to pursue the exact line I suggested – albeit to the correct body – and I wish him every success.

If this action results in a change in school holiday policy, then I will rejoice.

If I had wished to beat the EU with a stick, then I would doubtless have had to fill in the requisite paper work in triplicate (if that's the correct number) and found one of appropriate dimensions (in metres) and the correct material, which has been subjected to certified stress tests, and weight (in kilogrammes of course), and done a course to find the right point of application.

No doubt there is a stick mountain somewhere, and yes, this time I am being sarcastic, so you know the difference!

**CHRIS ADAMS**
**West Felton**

# Village fair celebrating 40 years

**Whittington Village Fair is being held on Saturday with the Mad Hatter as a special guest. It's the 40th anniversary and to celebrate there will be a selection of photos of past fair queens and other events from yesteryear. So to get in the mood let's take a look back to a previous fair, although we don't in fact have the year.**

# Blade nearly sparked a forest fire

A FLAMING 28 metre long wind generator blade almost sparked a forest fire after it was thrown as far as 100 metres from the tower of the machine, landing close to nearby gorse and forestry at the Cappaboy Beg Wind Farm in Co Cork on June 19.

Similar incidents, known as 'blade throws', can often occur during periods of very high wind, but worrisomely this incident happened during relatively mild conditions in one of the hottest spells so far this year.

We have to hope and pray a similar occurrence does not happen with one of the four large generators at Milford Haven which are close to the gas/oil terminals.

**DAVE HASKELL**
**Cardigan**

## LETTERS to the Editor

| POST | FAX | E-MAIL |
|---|---|---|
| Readers' Letters, Oswestry Chronicle, Ketley, Telford, TF1 5HU | 01952 254605 | letters@oswestry chronicle.co.uk |

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

# Democracy under threat from deal

IT'S a basic principle of democracy that governments should be able to make decisions in the interests of the people who elected them.

But the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership being negotiated between the US and the EU puts this principle under serious threat and aims to set up a secretive 'court' in which multinational companies can sue governments if they think a law might harm their profits.

A tobacco company is currently using a similar court to sue the Australian government for billions of pounds because they introduced plain packagin.

I want the UK government to be able make laws to protect the people of this country, which is why I've joined the World Development Movement's campaign to stop the deal.

**ROY SCOTT,Oswestry**

# Concerns over care in Powys

WE write to express our concern at the level of service being provided to elderly residents in Montgomeryshire.

We are continuing to receive accounts from families who are suffering because the new care providers are not sufficiently organised.

We request that Powys County Council take its statutory role seriously and urgently inspect the services of the new care providers. We ask that this inspection is not carried out by the contracted care agencies, but by Powys County Council and its' in-house employees.

**WILLIAM POWELL**
**AM for Mid Wales**
**JANE DODDS**
**Parliamentary Candidate for Montgomeryshire**

# Smoking or not is a matter of choice

ALTHOUGH I am a non-smoker myself, I find myself once more incensed over smokers being treated as social pariahs in our country.

It seems there is a dogged determination by the British Medical Association to blanket ban all smoking in public places on medical grounds, saying that smoking is bad for you and that one in two smokers die, from a smoking related disease.

With that in mind, why does it appear that more and more younger people taking up smoking in the first place?

With this in mind and with common sense, we know smoking is bad for you.

But it simply boils down to an individual's choice.

After all, many social activities people undertake can be hazardous like drinking, eating, sports, even everyday life.

So to try to impose a blanket ban on smoking is irrational and while members of society enjoy smoking, a blanket ban just will not work.

Bring back separate smoking rooms in pubs, restaurants, hospitals and work places. Let's stop taking away some of the simple pleasures and comforts people have in their lives.

**NEIL JUKES**
**Chairman**
**Shropshire Ukip**

# Back to us and them

This is an open letter to all of our local Members of Parliament.

Following the pay rise of 11 per cent for MPs followed by the offer of one per cent to NHS staff, it seems to suggest that we are no longer 'all in it together' but back in the days of 'us and them'.

When did these things change?

Isn't it about time we had a fairer system?

I will not hold my breath while waiting for a reply from you!

**TERRY HILLIER**
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## NEWS in brief

### Caravan park expansion plan

OWNERS of a caravan park are hoping to expand their operations by installing a reception desk and warden's accommodation on site.

Bosses at Bridleway Caravan Park on the outskirts of Gobowen say the lack of the facilities is holding it back from becoming a "premier touring site" in the county.

The park has planning permission for 12 touring caravans and an area designated for tents. But planning papers lodged in support of its plans for the improvements say visitors have complained it is short of the facilities found on other sites.

### Scooter burns out on busy A5 road

A SCOOTER dramatically burst into flames after a collision with a car on one of Shropshire's busiest roads.

One side of the A5 at Gledrid, near Oswestry, was shut for nearly an hour following the incident just after 10am yesterday.

Pc Matthew Norfolk, of West Mercia Police, said: "A fully restored Lambretta scooter was involved in a minor collision with another vehicle on the A5.

"There were no injuries but unfortunately the scooter was fully ablaze on police arrival."

# Report reveals that our roads are getting safer

by Pam Kingsley

**ROADS in Shropshire and Mid Wales are getting safer according to figures released by the Institute for Advanced Motoring.**

Across Shropshire there were 14 per cent fewer fatalities - three people - on the roads in 2013 than in 2012 and 38 per cent fewer injuries - 495 people.

Of those injured, there were 135 seriously hurt in 2013 compared with 156 in 2012. But while the Shropshire Council area saw a fall in the number of people seriously injured on the roads, Telford & Wrekin Council saw an increase of 25 per cent.

Over the border in Powys the number of deaths has also fallen, with fatalities dropping from 16 in 2012 to just 9 in 2013. The number of people injured also fell by 79.

The figures reflected the national trend as the number of casualties from road accidents fell to its lowest point since national records began in 1926.

### Killed

Nationally in 2013, 1,713 people were killed in road accidents while 21,657 people were seriously injured.

IAM director of policy and research Neil Greig said: "The IAM welcomes the overall decrease in road deaths in 2013 which maintains the recent downward trends despite our roads getting a little busier as the economy picks up . We are however still killing nearly five people every day nationally.

"It is worrying that motorways have seen a 14 per cent increase in deaths which is only partly explained by a 1.5 per cent increase in traffic.

"It is vital that the government keeps a close eye on these figures as the Highway Agency rolls out its programme of widespread hard shoulder running as opposed to widening.

## Business club at golf course

MIXING golf and business has been a tradition for decades.

Now one Shropshire golf club is making the practice official, by launching its own business club.

Oswestry Golf Club at Aston Park is already a member of both Shropshire Chamber of Commerce and Oswestry Chamber and says it has a vision for the future, exploring areas of potential growth in this ever-changing and competitive market place.

Chairman of development at the club Colin Spicer said the venture would attract companies to play golf and enjoy the other benefits associated with the club in an attractive and cost-effective package. "It will also enable organisations to hold their own golf days and entertain clients or employees in a friendly environment. Business club members will also enjoy a presence on the new dynamic interactive website."

## New contest for town criers

Town Crier Sue Blower has organised the competition

TOWN criers from across the UK will descend on Montgomery later this month for a new competition.

Montgomery's town crier Sue Blower, who is one of the few female town criers in the UK, has organised the event which will take place in the town on July 19.

They will compete for the new Trefaldwyn Trophy by performing a cry about their own town in the morning, followed by a presentation on the Robber's Grave in Montgomery during the afternoon.

Mrs Blower will not compete in the event, but will instead take on the role of master of ceremonies. Later in the year she will represent Wales in the World Town Crier event in Chester.

She said: "It is very exciting for me to host this national competition in my home town and I may pick up some tips for when I compete later in the year."

## Job news in Powys greeted by Davies

MID Wales is a "hub of innovative businesses", according to Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies.

His comments come after it was revealed that Powys has 1,239 people out of work (1.6 per cent) compared to the Welsh average of 3.1 per cent.

Mr Davies said: "I am delighted to see the unemployment figures continue to fall in Montgomeryshire. There is a wide range of employment opportunities in Mid Wales.

"Over the four years that I have been Montgomeryshire's MP I have visited countless small, medium and large businesses and shops who have recognised the potential of the area. They are involved in activities as diverse as fittings for luxury yachts and food waste."

There are currently 800 males and 439 females claiming unemployment benefit in the county as of May.

Llanfair Caereinion has the lowest claimant unemployment rate at 0.7 per cent. There are 535 people claiming long term claimant unemployed in Powys, a fall of 250 from last year.

There were 345 youth claimant unemployed , a fall of 180 from last year.

Organiser Ewan Ellis with good friend Ewan Harris

Katherine Bird and Jade Holkham looked stunning

# No prom so Ewan sets up his own

Youngsters from Welshpool High School all dressed up for the prom at The Venue near Oswestry

Grace Johns and Dan Earle put on a show

Chlo Deer, Megan Parry and Michella Turner

Owen Colley, Lewis Marston and Henry Williams arrive in style

Rhys Glover, Cameron Humphreys, Kieron Austin, Joe Baker

**by Andrew Morris**

A PUPIL at a school took it upon himself to organise a bash for more than 100 friends.

Ewan Ellis, 16, from Llandrinio, organised the unofficial Welshpool High School prom after pleas from classmates for the school to hold one fell on deaf ears.

The event was held at The Venue in Oswestry and saw 113 year eleven pupils don smart suits and glamorous gowns for the evening.

Ewan said: "The school has never held a prom for year 11 pupils and all year my friends had been saying to me to ask the teaching staff to see if they would change that this year.

"I asked and they were not willing to change their minds even though year 12 and 13 leavers have a ball so a few people asked me to organise one myself, so I did.

"It was a wonderful evening with 113 guests and they all looked fantastic. It was great to see everybody wearing their best clothes and with their hair done and having a great time.

"We had people arriving in lorries, on the back of quad bikes and in some classic or vintage cars too.

"Everybody had a fantastic time and it was well worth organising. I would like to thank everybody who attended and everyone who helped out.

"The Venue was a great location too."

Ewan says he is now taking steps towards launching his own company later this summer.

He said: "I am working with a friend towards setting up my own technical sports clothing firm which I hope will help young athletes at grass roots levels perform to the best of their ability.

"It is called XTM Sport and it will be up and running and selling stock within the next couple of months.

"It is something I am very excited about and there will be more news on this in the near future."

Officials at The Venue, which hosted the event, were quick to praise the organisation.

"The Venue was proud hosts of "The Welshpool Prom," said a spokesman.

"The Evening was a great success and everyone who attended looked absolutely brilliant. A huge congratulations to the organiser Ewan Ellis for putting on such a wonderful evening.

**Pictures by: Brian Jones Photography.**

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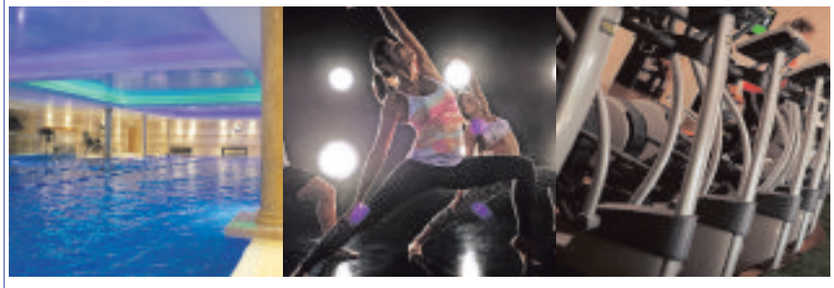

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## NEWS in brief

### Water firm to begin works

SEVERN Trent has confirmed that some parts of Welshpool can expect up to three months of disruptions after announcing major works starting next month.

Work will begin to replace crumbling water pipes around Gungrog Road and Salop Road in early August.

"We are holding an exhibition on Tuesday, July 22, at Welshpool High School between 4pm-7pm," said a Severn Trent spokesperson.

### Man denies theft from country hall

A MAN has denied a burglary at a country house inLeighton, near Welshpool.

Ryan Smith, 33, of Staines-upon-Thames in Middlesex, is charged with the burglary at Leighton Hall, Welshpool, in April 2013.

Smith denied the charges when he appeared at Mold Crown Court on Friday.

Judge Rhys Rowlands bailed him pending a trial in December.

### Meeting date for U3A group

THE next meeting of Welshpool & District U3A will take place on August 5. The meeting will be held at Church House, Church Bank from 9.45am. Call (01686) 668024.

# Castle is shortlisted for Special Places contest

**by Andrew Morris**

**POWIS Castle is in the running to be named as one of the public's top 20 places in Wales.**

The Welshpool attraction is a front-runner in the National Trust Wales' Special Places campaign.

The conservation charity's campaign has sparked a national conversation that has seen people talking about, and voting for, their own special place in Wales – with the winning top spot will be revealed at this year's National Eisteddfod in August.

Powis Castle is currently ranked third in the category.

Locations from all corners of Wales feature in the current top 20, incorporating much-loved architectural landmarks like Cardiff Castle, Penarth Pier Pavilion and Powis Castle, as well as areas of outstanding natural beauty including Three Cliffs Bay in Gower and the tiny seaside parish of Mwnt in Ceredigion, which is best known for its popular "secret" beach – both areas are looked after by the National Trust.

Justin Albert, Special Places panel member and National Trust's Director for Wales, said: "As we reach the final run-in for nominations, it's fascinating to see how the list is shaping up.

"All of the locations in the top 20 are undoubtedly special in their own right. Many may seem like obvious choices, but others are true hidden gems that many people in Wales, and particularly outside Wales, may never have even heard of.

"With just over a week until the open nomination phase closes I urge the Welsh public to get involved with the Special Places campaign and vote. We're lucky to have so many unique places here in Wales, and we should celebrate them."

The panel is urging the public to submit their votes via Twitter, online, or by filling in a voting slip at National Trust locations.

Tricia Payne and Rosemary Denholm with visitors, volunteers, and Allan the peacock

## Charity event in Welshpool

THE Montgomeryshire Parachute Regiment will hold its seventh annual fundraiser at Maesydre School in Welshpool on Saturday.

Money raised in past years went to Help For Heroes and the Afghanistan Trust along with local causes but this year's event will be in aid of The Airborne Forces.

Nicola Davies, one of the organisers, said: "We have some fantastic bands and singers playing on the day including Billy Spencer and his band, Dai Robs, Steve Edwards, Storm, Static Attic and Fourphit to name just a few.

"There will be food stalls, a bar, bouncy castles, it's a knockout and a tattoo artist, plus others yet to confirm.

Tickets are £5 if bought before the event or £7.50 on the day. Entrance is free to those under 16 but children must be accompanied. Gates open at 1pm.

## Questions over how to punish crimes

RESIDENTS in the Welshpool area are being given the chance to have their say on what punishments should be given to people involved in low-level crime.

The Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner, Christopher Salmon, is undertaking a poll to find out what those creating anti-social behaviour or misdemeanours should do to make up for their crimes.

Residents in Welshpool and other communities in Montgomeryshire can have a say on what punishment people should get as part of the Give us back our lives campaign.

Results from the poll will give Mr Salmon an idea on what punishments should be handed out as part of powers given to him.

The closing date for people to have their say is July 18.

A month into a six-week vote, the public's favourites for misdemeanours such as antisocial behaviour are: Repairing damage; paying to replace stolen property or damage and doing unpaid work.

To have your say go to www.bit.ly/DPCRsurvey, phone 01267 226457 or request a form by writing to OPCC, PO Box 99, Llangunnor, Carmarthen, SA31 2PF.


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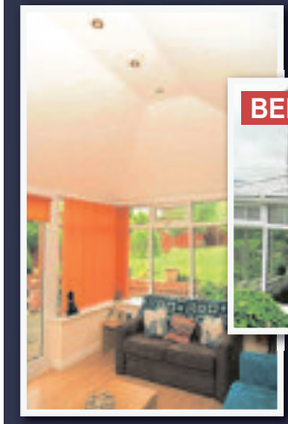

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# Council seeks views about plans for £2,500 new sign

**COUNCILLORS in Llanfyllin are asking the public for their views on plans to spend £2,500 on a new especially designed town sign.**

**by Iain St John**

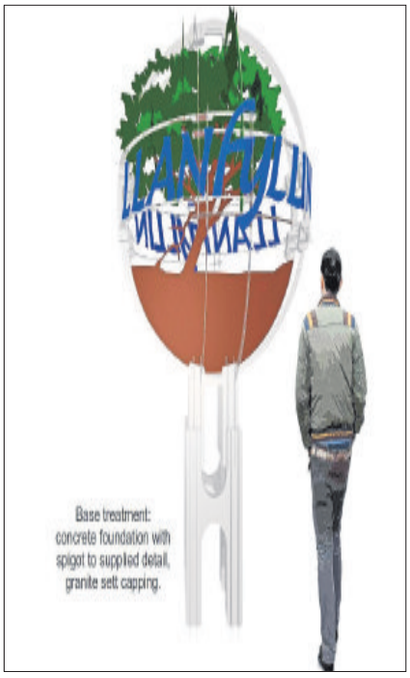
The new globe shaped 3D stainless steel installation will not just serve as a town sign, but as an interesting art creation designed to help attract tourists.

Draft drawings of the installation include images representing the town including the Lonely Tree, the landmark tree which was blown over in storms earlier this year.

Llanfyllin Town Council has been discussing the design of the sign for several months with councillors hoping the art piece will help advertise the town and encourage visitors on their way to the Welsh coast to stop and spend money.

Mayor Ann Williams told a recent town council meeting it was important the general public were aware of how the decision to have a sign had come about.

Councillor Williams said: "We have had quite a few comments asking why we are spending money on a sign. This was discussed at our last meeting and it was agreed it would go to public consultation. We need people on our side. We don't want people up in arms when they see it."




**An artist's impression of how the new sign at Llanfyllin would look**

# Musical talents

YOUNG musicians from across Powys will be celebrating their talents in a festival of music at Gregynog, near Welshpool on Sunday from 2pm to 5pm.

Music to suit all tastes will be played by dozens of young people from the North Powys Youth Music Trust.

Festival tickets are: adults £7, children £3.50, family (two adults and three children) £20, Under 5s are free.

# Council getting tough with the dog poo dodgers

TWO dog owners have been fined £75 for not cleaning up after their pets.

Powys County Council said its environmental protection team has issued the fixed penalty notices on the two dog owners after members of the public reported them.

One of the incidents took place on Prince of Wales Drive in Oldford, Welshpool, while the other took place on grass in Union Street, Newtown.

After the incidents were reported to the council, investigations were launched and both owners were ordered to pay £75 fixed penalty notices.

The council is now urging residents and local businesses to report any similar incidents of dog fouling which takes place so it can investigate.

Councillor John Powell, cabinet member responsible for environmental protection, said the council is determined to tackle the issue and clean up the county's streets.

He said: "I would like to thank the members of the public who reported this to us. The information they provided allowed us to investigate and issue the fixed penalty notices on those dog owners.

"We understand the impact dog fouling has on our communities and we are determined to tackle this issue. However, we can't do this alone and our residents and local businesses can play a vital role in helping combat this in Powys.

"This is a clear example that by working together, we can combat dog fouling in our county.

"The council is also urging residents to report any particular problems in their area and is also reminding dog owners that they must clean up after their dog has fouled and properly dispose of the waste."

# PCC boss sorry for care change issues

A SENIOR councillor has apologised over Powys County Council's handling of the transfer of some of its services.

Domiciliary care, which was previously provided by about 20 companies, was taken over by four – Alpha Home Care, Care Watch UK, Reach and Abicare after a tendering process in March.

Although the shake-up has led to complaints, the cabinet member for adult services, Councillor Darren Mayor, said that "on the whole the council had been pleased at the continuity of care" that had been achieved.

He added: "However, in the second phase transfer, especially in the north of the county, the providers have experienced considerable challenges which have impacted on some services users.

"This is unacceptable, and we are very sorry at the distress and anxiety that has been caused to service users and their families."

Councillor Mayor said the new contractors had now taken on more carers, were offering 16-hour contracts to give a wider choice of employment options, and had raised standards of training," he said.

"We recognise that there are lessons to be learnt."

Roy Norris, chairman of Montgomeryshire CHC said: "I've heard dreadful stories of arrangements breaking down that could lead to real harm and we as the patients' watchdog need to be assured that the right action is being taken rapidly."

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## NEWS in brief

### Crews tackle fire at pallet company

FIREFIGHTERS saved thousands of tonnes of wood and pallets going up in flames when they contained a blaze on an industrial estate in Oswestry.

The alarm was raised when flames were seen at a pallet firm on the Maesbury Road industrial estate in Oswestry on July 2.

Tim Davidson, watch manager at Oswestry Fire Station, said crews found the gate to the complex locked and needed specialist cutting equipment to gain access.

About five tonnes of wood was destroyed. The cause of the fireis being investigated but it is believed to have been accidental.

### Volunteers sought for Osfest dates

A MUSIC festival is looking for volunteers to help ensure that the weekend event runs smoothly.

Osfest, on the Oswestry Showground on on August 9 and 10 has a line up that includes Paloma Faith, Union J, Foxes, Luke Friend from X-Factor, Toyah and the Bay City Rollers.

Toby Halcroft from the music festival said: "It is a great opportunity to boost a CV as many employers look for volunteering work."

If interested, get in touch with toby@osfest.co.uk

# Three sixth forms could close in review shake-up

**by Karen Evans**

**UP to three sixth forms in Powys could be closed, as the county council enters the final stage of a review of post-16 education.**

The council launched an urgent review of post 16 education in March when it emerged funding cuts meant 31 A-level subjects would have to be dropped at Powys's 12 high schools from this September.

Now the final stage of the review is to consider how the county could operate just nine or 10 sixth form sites instead of the current 12. No schools have been named in the review.

At a meeting last week the council's cabinet agreed that work on the final stage of the review should start and a final report will be brought back to the cabinet in August.

An interim report recommended the final stage of the review should consider adopting a model based on just nine or 10 sixth form sites. Under this model the cost of school transport would still have to be met, but the council believes it could retain pupils who might otherwise choose to travel to England or other parts of Wales to continue their education.

If the council decides to close any sixth forms, pupils starting two year A-level courses in September would be able to complete them at the same site, so the earliest any change could be introduced is September 2016, if approval to proceed to formal consultation was taken in the late summer or early Autumn 2014.

Cabinet members approved accountants PWC conduct the final stage review at a cost of no more than £75,000.

Last year, the council agreed to axe the sixth form at John Beddoes School,in Presteigne, which has since become a campus of Newtown High School.

## Handy help for older people

AN AMBITIOUS new grant given to Care and Repair in Powys can help older people in the county make improvements and adaptations to their homes to help cope with changing physical or medical needs, especially to give protection from falls and accidents.

The local not-for-profit organisation will be delivering a regional Health At Home grant, having secured funding from the Welsh Government through to April 2015.

In Powys, the grant will be used to increase the number of people aged over 60 who can benefit from the Rapid Response Adaptation Programme for repairs and adaptations to their homes.

Small changes such as grab rails or ramps can help prevent hospital admission by reducing risks of falls or support safe hospital discharge to get people back home quicker.

For more information call 01597 824040.

## Natoli organises horse show

June Stacey-Davies and Natoli preparing for the show

NATOLI Stacey-Davies will never forget the day her mother was injured in a fall from her horse and had to be taken to hospital by Air Ambulance.

June Stacey-Davies fractured two vertebrae in the accident four years ago and was airlifted to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

She has battled back to fitness, but, at the age of 14, Natoli has now decided to organise a fundraising horse show to boost the funds of the Air Ambulance charity on Saturday at Radford's equestrian centre in Llanymynech.

Natoli, from Llanfechain, is hoping that riders from across the region will enter the show on the day, competing in a wide range of classes.

Anyone looking for more details about the event should contact Mrs Stacey-Davies on 07929 104337 or can email meganatoli@aol.com.

## Apology over care at home problems

A SENIOR county councillor has apologised over the council's handling of a transfer of home care services across Powys.

Following a tender process in March, domiciliary care which was previously provided by about 20 companies, was taken over by four – Alpha Home Care, Care Watch UK, Reach and Abicare.

Although the shake-up has led to complaints, cabinet member for adult services, Councillor Darren Mayor said on the whole the council had been pleased at the continuity of care that has been achieved.

He said: "However, in the second phase transfer, especially in the north of the county, the providers have experienced considerable challenges which have impacted on some services users.

"This is unacceptable, and we are very sorry at the distress and anxiety that has been caused to service users and their families."

Roy Norris, Chairman of Montgomeryshire CHC said: "I've heard dreadful stories of arrangements breaking down that could lead to real harm and we as the patients' watchdog need to be assured that the right action is being taken rapidly."

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## NEWS in brief

### Supporters are thanked by charity

CHARITY volunteers have thanked supporters for helping to raise more than £11,500 during the first half of the year.

Lin Stapley, spokeswoman for Oswestry Guide Dogs fundraising branch, said a number of events had been held in the north west of the county to support the charity's work.

She said: "Since January, we have raised over £11,500 which is due to the generosity of the people of Oswestry and surrounding areas."

Anyone who would like to get involved in fundraising for the charity is asked to contact Lin on (01691) 662644.

### Boat team pirates in jolly good show

A TEAM of staff from two estate agents in Oswestry did their bit for charity last week when they competed in the annual Dragon Boat Festival, Shrewsbury, in aid of Severn Hospice.

Roger Parry & Partners and Parry Lowarch, which called the combined team-Patty's Pirates, competed in front of more than 1,000 spectators, with more than 20 other teams, in a 250m race from Kingsland Toll Bridge, upstream to Pengwern Boat Club.

Richard Corbett, partner at Roger Parry & Partners, said the team exceeded its £1,000 fundraising target.

# Teenager locked up for storing indecent images

**Report by David Banner**

**A TEENAGER from Welshpool has been locked up for four years after admitting child sex offences and possessing hundreds of indecent images on his mobile phone.**

He appeared at Mold Crown Court where he was sentenced to four years in a youth detention facility and told he will have to sign the sexual offenders' register for life, as well as being placed under an indefinite sexual offences prevention order.

The images were discovered when Shawn Anthony Frazer, 19, took his mobile phone to a repair shop in Newtown, Powys.

Frazer, of Salop Road, Welshpool, had admitted possessing the images and sexually abusing four children.

A total of 10,000 images were found including hundreds of images of child sex abuse, and the police were alerted.

Prosecuting barrister Simon Rogers said that forensic analyses of the phone revealed discussions and descriptions of the images with other men "in the most graphic of detail".

Mr Rogers said there were so many images on the phone that police only analysed a portion of them. They looked at just over 1,000 and of them 25 per cent had been distributed.

Shawn Anthony Frazer

The court heard that Frazer had targeted four victims who he sexually assaulted or engaged in sexual activity with, and that his behaviour had a profound effect upon them and caused great distress to their families.

During the sentencing Judge Rhys Rowlands said: "These offences, which had been committed over a two year period, are serious and disturbing.

"You have accessed the most appalling images and distributed some of them – and went on to touch children sexually and to engage in sexual activity in front of them.

"Without people such as you prepared to view and distribute such images, children would not have been subjected to the most appalling depravity in the first place"

In reports, Frazer was described as a high risk of causing harm to children but a low risk of re-offending.

John Hedgecoe, for Frazer, said the teenager had been in care from a very young age and had been subjected to bullying. He said Frazer had been seeking counselling .

## Cancer survivor hosts event

Emma Bussey, James Grainger, Josie Woodward and Max Senatone

EMMA Bussey will be saying thank you for the care she received more than a decade ago when she holds a charity event at the Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry later this month.

Proceeds from the High Tea afternoon on July 19 will go to her appeal for the Lingen Davies Cancer Centre at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

In 2001, at the age of26, she was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma, a cancer affecting the white blood cells.Thankfully her treatment at the centre was a success and, now aged 40 and a mum and step-mum, Emma wants to continue fundraising.

The afternoon tea will include a glass of prosecco, sandwiches and cakes. For tickets contact Emma on 07710 334533.

## Matt set to tackle Everest challenge

A CHIRK man is to set out on one of the hardest treks in the world later this year to raise money for charity.

Matt Finch will embark on a 16 day trek to to Everest Base Camp on November 21, climbing to 17,598 feet all in aid of Diabetes UK.

Before he sets off he has another challenge, to raise the £3,000 needed for the fundraiser.

The 26 year old from Chirk said he had chosen this charity because his Dad, John, was diagnosed with the condition 10 years ago and his uncle just three years ago.

"The charity is for such a good cause and very close to my heart," he said. I have seen the effect that diabetes can have and an well aware that it can lead to serious health problems."

As part of the fundraising Matt, a buyer for JR Pickstock, is holding a fundraising evening at the Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry on August 8.

"There will be live music and a DJ, a hog roast and an auction and tickets will be just £15 and £5 for children," he said.

Donations can also be made through his just giving page on the internet, http://www.justgiving.com/matthew-finch3.

# Police and CADW agree to take no action over damage to dyke

**NO action was taken against a man who bulldozed part of the ancient Offa's Dyke because police couldn't prove he knew it was the famous trail.**

But experts have warned it highlighted a gap in the current law designed to protect historic monuments.

The damage was done on land at Chirk, on the Shropshire/Wales border, bought by two travellers.

Correspondence by North Wales Police and officials from the Welsh historic monuments body CADW has now been released under the Freedom of Information Act.

In it CADW said the new owners claimed the land had been advertised as ideal for stables and a paddock and neither the seller nor their solicitor had informed them of the protected status of the site.

## Prove

Wrexham CID told CADW that no further action would be taken "due to both parties' solicitors not identifying Offa's Dyke" and because officers couldn't prove whoever was responsible for the damage knew the site was part of the 1,200-year-old earthwork.

But CADW said the decision not to prosecute highlighted "a failing in current legislation under which the monument is protected."

A criminal offence is only committed when someone causes damage knowing it was a protected monument and with intent

**by David Banner**

to destroy or damage. "It is therefore a defence to demonstrate ignorance of the protected status," an official explained in the FOI documents.

The trail, popular with ramblers, runs for 177 miles from Prestatyn in North Wales to near Chepstow on the mouth of the River Severn. Historians have always linked the dyke with King Offa, the Mercian (English) king who ruled in the eighth century, and have thought it was there as a warning to the Welsh, or as a defensive wall. It's up to eight feet high and 65 feet wide and previous estimates were that its construction was between 757 and 796AD.

According to legend, there were violent repercussions for those of either nationality who strayed to the "wrong" side.

Recent research by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust has suggested that at least part was built up to 200 years earlier than thought.

# Leisure centre volunteers to give an update

AN update on a battle to save a leisure centre popular with families from the Chirk area will be given at a public meeting tonight (Thursday).

Members of the Splash Community Trust, who are leading the fight to save Plas Madoc Leisure Centre, are calling on the public to continue to show their support by coming out in numbers to the talks.

Wrexham Councillors agreed earlier this year to close the centre because of funding cuts, so volunteers formed the Splash Community Trust in a bid to take over the running of the popular attraction and have it reopened rather than see it demolished.

Tonight's meeting will see the Splash Community Trust provide an update on its plans to reopen the facility as a social enterprise.

And organisers are calling on residents to show their continuing support by turning out in force at 7.30pm at Air Products Social Club in Acrefair.

Chairman Darrell Wright said: "It's a chance to keep members of the public and supporters up to date with what's happening. "People might think it's gone a bit quiet recently, but there's still a massive amount of work going on behind the scenes."

Clwyd South AM Ken Skates, another of the trust's founder members, added: "We have enjoyed fantastic support from the public so far, and I would ask you to stick with us while we continue with our efforts to save Plas Madoc.

"As long as the will, the enthusiasm and the support remain then we have every chance of reopening the centre and achieving something amazing."

The trust's most recent fundraiser, a race night, was held at the Old Black Horse in Rhostyllen on Friday and raised almost £600.

## Group's record label plans

Matt Deighton from Llanfyllin

A BAND based chosen to support rock legends Status Quo at the Llangollen Eisteddfod are planning to launch their own record label.

Pobl Y Bryn, whose members hail from Llanfyllin, Morda near Oswestry and Wrexham, hope the new label will promote Welsh language music.

Guitarist Matt Deighton, who lives in Llanfyllin, said the new enterprise will be the first Welsh language record label in Powys.

Mr Deighton, 46, moved to Llanfyllin with his wife Cler Fach a year ago.

They formed Welsh language band Pobl Y Bryn with Mr Deighton playing guitar and his wife singing.

The couple are joined in the band by drummer Barrington Turner from Morda, guitarist Amos Cooper from Wrexham and bass player Chris Wright, also from Wrexham.

Mr Deighton said: "We are still working on the plans to launch our label which will be called Clen. We are a Welsh language band and all the members except me are Welsh.

"We are really keen on setting up the label to support Welsh language music and are are just figuring out now how many CDs we should be pressing and how many vinyls we should be doing.

"Vinyls have made something of a comeback and youngsters are keen on buying seven inch singles on vinyl in particular.

"In the meantime we have just finished the mastering of our new EP called Blas which is now available for download."

# Resurrected show is growing from strength to strength

A VILLAGE show which was resurrected in 2009 after a gap of 50 years is going from strength to strength, organisers say.

Middletown Village Show was revived five years ago thanks to the efforts of local residents and groups after the five decade gap.

Organisers say this year's show preparations are in full swing with entertainment including theatre performances, an RAF helicopter, vintage tractors, It's a Knockout, craft stalls and lots more.

This show, in the village of Middletown near Welshpool on the A458, will take place on Saturday, starting at 2pm.

Entertainment includes performances from The Kaleidoscope Theatre Group, a group of eight volunteers, six of whom have Down's Syndrome, who live and work together year-round in Shropshire.

Jester Jack Green will also perform, alongside a host of other activities and events, including vintage tractors, children's sports, bouncy castles, an RAF helicopter, laser shooting, craft stalls, tug of war competitions, The Young Farmers "It's a Knockout" and lots more.

Catherine Buckley from the show said: "The local WI help to organise the range of competitions for adults and children that are judged on the day.

"Refreshments are available all day including a bar, as well as cakes, tea and coffee.

"Visitors are also invited to bring along their four-legged friends on the day to enter the dog show."

A few spaces for trade stands and craft stalls are still available and must be pre-booked via Judy Evans, show secretary on 01938 570501 or email judyevanswales@yahoo.co.uk.

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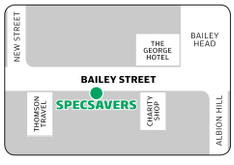


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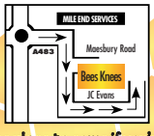


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LATEST NEWS FROM SHROPSHIRE FORECOURTS

# Octavia's winning formula

By James Parker

**Every once in a while, it's nice to give the system one right on the nose. It doesn't happen often, but when it does it's a sweet feeling.**

Imagine getting that feeling every single time you drive your car. That's pretty much the deal with the Skoda Octavia GreenLine. If fuel prices make you feel as if you're being mugged, here's one of the most satisfying legal ways to hit back.

The best thing about this third generation Octavia is that in order to realise these minuscule fuel bills, the car asks very little of you in return. It's big, it's got an engine that doesn't need help driving the car out of a wet paper bag and it's even reasonably well equipped.

The Octavia GreenLine is powered by a diesel engine that manages a respectable 110PS, which is actually 5PS more than the otherwise similar 1.6 TDI units found in the rest of the Octavia range. This means it'll get to 62mph in a fraction over 10 seconds and top out at 128mph. This 1.6-litre diesel engine comes from a tried and tested VW Group family renowned for being smooth, flexible and relaxing to drive. With 250Nm of torque on tap, it's not going to labour, even if you're five-up.

If you're not familiar with this third generation Octavia, then the first thing you'll notice is the fact that it's grown, and by quite some amount. The latest model is 90mm longer and 45mm wider than the second-generation Octavia. At the same time, the wheelbase has grown by 108mm, mainly benefiting the interior and space on the rear seats. This means the Octavia is now almost as long as a Ford Mondeo and there's genuinely impressive rear seat space.

The boot has increased in space to 590-litres, distancing this MK3 model from its predecessor, a car that competed with typical family hatchbacks like Ford Focus, a model offering just 320 litres under the rear hatch. Now you see how far this current Octavia has stepped up in size. Need even more space? Then you can choose an estate variant with a 610-litre cargo area.

Despite the notchback design, the standard version of this model remains a five-door car with a massive tailgate. There's a really crisp, architectural neatness to the exterior design and detailing, with plenty of shape in the flanks, an elegant sweep to the roofline and a refreshing simplicity to the front end.

The interior is similarly simple and elegant as a result. Materials quality has improved and there's stacks of clever storage ideas.

Skoda asks just over £20,000 for the Octavia GreenLine hatch, which means that you're looking at just under £2,000 more than you'd pay for an entry-level 1.6 TDI Octavia in base S trim. Given that you get an additional 14 miles from a gallon of fuel in the GreenLine, you'd have to drive 140,000 miles in it to reap back that additional cost in fuel savings alone.

Still, that doesn't take into account the fact that the GreenLine comes with quite a bit of additional equipment. It gets acoustic rear parking sensors, dual-zone climate control air conditioning with humidity sensor and control, and cornering front fog lights, none of which you'll find on the S model. In fact it sits somewhere between the SE and the Elegance in Skoda's trim walk up.

Go for the estate version and you're looking at an £800 premium. Whichever bodystyle you select, the cabin is quite low key with black fabric seating, and very little in the way of colour. Safety equipment includes ESP stability control, hill hold control, parking sensors, rest assist, twin front, side and curtain airbags, a driver's knee airbag and a tyre pressure monitoring system.

There aren't too many cars in this size class that can approach the Octavia GreenLine's running costs. The headline figure is that 88.3mpg combined fuel economy figure. On a longer run, it'll better 94mpg and a few hypermiling techniques might well see the car top 100mpg.

**'This 1.6-litre diesel engine comes from a tried and tested VW Group family renowned for being smooth'**


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# All the fun of the carnival

**Once again the annual community celebrations in Oakengates proved to be a massive success with thousands of people lining the processional route and visiting the activities in the park. Greenhous take a special interest in working with the community and joined in the fun.**

Greenhous sponsored the mighty Titan the Robot who is always a major interactive attraction with children and their parents.

The Greenhous Group took the opportunity to showcase a range of vehicles from within its family of brands. Nissan, Renault, Toyota and Vauxhall are all represented in the Greenhous Group of dealerships.

This event gave each brand the chance to enter cars of their choice into the procession and for display in the park.

Greenhous Nissan chose to feature the new all electric Leaf, which was smartly liveried in eye-catching slogans and the brand new Juke.

Greenhous Renault went all-electric and entered the fun sized Twizy and the Zoe.

The team from Greenhous Toyota put on show the brand new "Go fun yourself" Aygo, launched at the end of June, along with the sporty GT 86.

The Greenhous Vauxhall dealership at Trench Lock, adjacent to Oakengates, supported the event by placing an electric Vauxhall Ampera in the procession.

Greenhous are always looking to achieve the best service for their customers.

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## Mercedes Shrewsbury

# Class act from Mercedes

**By James Parker**

**The Mercedes A180 CDI SE ECO might well be a car you'd never previously considered if you were maybe looking at a Focus or an Astra.**

If you can downsize one notch, you get a car that's cheaper to run, better built inside and comes with some sophisticated technology that makes it feel like money extremely well spent.

This generation A-Class is a class act and one that presents a real challenge to rivals and a real tempter for those who always thought buying and running a Mercedes-Benz was out of their reach.

The ECO version of the A180 CDI SE features an aerodynamic grille element, coupled with underbody panelling and suspension that's lowered by 10mm front and 15mm at the rear, giving it a nicely hunkered down appearance.

All trim elements have been given an electroplated finish, resulting in real metal surfaces with a "cool touch" effect. The instrument panel is divided into a wing profile-type upper section and a solid lower section. Perhaps the most interesting design touch is what looks like an iPad sitting on the upper part of the centre console but which is in fact an integrated touch-screen system which syncs seamlessly with a smartphone.

For around £22,000, you do get air conditioning, electric windows al round, sports seats, a trip computer, ARTICO and cloth upholstery, the Audio 20 radio with CD, tablet-style colour display, six speakers, telephone keypad, and Bluetooth and USB inputs. The wheels are perhaps the only part of the car that look as if they could benefit from having a bit of money thrown at them, but be aware that going for a set of alloys bigger than the 16-inch ten-spoke rims that the A180 CDI SE ECO comes with will see your fuel economy dip a little. In fact, Mercedes is remarkably generous with their equipment provision for the entry-level SE trim. Some rival manufacturers strip out the lower models in a range, but about 90 per cent of the goodies that you get in a range topping AMG Sport A-Class you'll also find in this SE.

The asking price of around £22,000 looks reasonable value given the amount of equipment you get and resale values of this latest A-Class have held up very well. You'll need to be a little careful when choosing options to protect those residuals but otherwise there's little to worry about here. Even the pre-ECO Mercedes A180 CDI SE would only cost you around 48 pence per mile to run over a three year/36,000 mile ownership tenure. That you can spend about the same asking price on a Ford Focus diesel that will cost around 55ppm to run demonstrates that Mercedes is offering a viable alternative to the mainstream badges here.

**'A real tempter for those who always thought buying and running a Mercedes-Benz was out of their reach'**

The Mercedes-Benz A180 CDI SE is a very interesting vehicle. We normally think of Mercedes as a company that's all about power and prestige, but here's a car that makes a diesel Ford Focus look expensive to run and feels like a product several notches removed in terms of quality and sense of occasion. Yes, it's a smaller car than a Focus and that may well be an issue but it's hardly cramped inside and comes with safety features that family buyers will certainly value.

So if you thought you were in the market for a Ford,a Vauxhall or a Renault, it's worth doing the sums, taking a test drive and seeing whether the Mercedes A180 CDI SE ECO will work for you. We're betting it will and we'd also wager that you wouldn't regret your decision to buy it. Just try it. You'll see.


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Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the A-Class range: urban 32.1(8.8)-67.3(4.2), extra urban 48.7(5.8)-88.3(3.2), combined 40.9(6.9)-78.5(3.6). CO2 emissions 161-92 g/km

†3 years free servicing only as per the Mercedes-Benz Service Care Package available on Mercedes-Benz retail sales on vehicles ordered and registered between 01.07.2014 and 30.09.2014 excluding A-Class A45 AMG. *Annual mileage for A180 SE Hatchback is 10,000 miles per annum. Quotations are based on a 3 year PCP at 10,000 miles per annum. Subject to availability. All quotations are subject to approval and vehicles must be ordered between 01.07.2014 and 30.09.2014 and registered before 31.12.2014 Excess mileage charges apply. All finance examples are subject to the acceptance and purchase fees. Finance available from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Ltd, MK15 8BA. Model images shown for demonstration purposes only. Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required.

# Mazda3 is a triumph

## By David Banner

**Judged purely on merit, the Mazda3 ought to be one of the top five superminis in this country but the sales figures paint a sorrier story.**

Undaunted by this, Mazda has gone back to the drawing board and developed a massively improved car. It's just too good to ignore.

So here we are with Mazda's third stab at its family hatch, the Mazda3. There's a quite pleasant symmetry about that fact, but it's worth reminding ourselves how we got here.

The first Mazda3 debuted in December 2003. Most expected the Ford Focus to be the first beneficiary of Ford's family hatch platform but instead the chassis got its first airing with a Mazda badge bolted to the bodywork. That's not to say the Ford and its Mazda cousin were alike in the way they drove. The Mazda felt a little softer and more luxury-biased than the Focus, with even the Sport variants offering a very composed ride.

It was facelifted in 2006, an MPS sports model appeared in 2007 and then the range was replaced in 2009 by the second generation car.

That was a more elegant piece of styling, yet it again provoked apathy from the British public. The top brass in Hiroshima must have wondered what it needed to do to get this strange island race to buy its cars. It received a minor facelift in 2011 which brings us to the third generation car, first shown to the public at the 2013 Frankfurt Show.

The latest Mazda3 gets four engine options, all of which are designed around Mazda's SkyActiv technology. You're probably used to such nonsense buzzwords, but bear with this one because there's real merit behind it. SkyActiv aims to improve efficiency by reducing weight and utilising smart functions such as capturing waste energy to power things like the air-conditioning when the car is stationary. It even extends to functions like an active shutter front grille which closes for better aerodynamics when the engine isn't in immediate need of cooling. T

he engines comprise an entry-level 1.5-litre petrol and two 2.0-litre petrol units, as well as a 2.2-litre diesel. The 1.5-litre engine produces 99bhp and will go from rest to 62mph in 10.8 seconds, while the 2.2-litre diesel will cover the benchmark sprint in 8.1 seconds, thanks to its punchy 148bhp engine.

### Customers

Mazda reckons a less powerful diesel engine will eventually be offered to UK customers, but it may take quite a while.

The 2.0-litre petrol engine is offered in two distinct flavours; one packing 118bhp and the other with 165bhp.

Performance? Think rest to 62mph in 8.9 seconds for the standard version and 8.2 seconds for the higher power version. Buyers of the 118bhp 2.0-litre petrol and the 2.2-litre diesel are also offered the option of a six-speed automatic.

Those who loved the stealthy speed of the Mazda3 MPS hatchback will also have to sit and wait for further news.

If you're searching for some kind of visual DNA that links the three generations of Mazda3, you'll search in vain. None look anything like the other which doesn't help in building a firm identity amongst buyers. Nonetheless, it's hard to argue that the latest car is anything other than very sharp-looking in either five-door hatch or 'Fastback' saloon forms.Improved aerodynamics have helped the car become quieter, helped by lightweight sound-absorbing materials and

softer shock absorbers. It's stiffer in the chassis than before but weight has been cut.

The 350-litre boot is 10 litres bigger than the old car, putting it on a par with the likes of the Vauxhall Astra but easily beating the Ford Focus. Interior materials quality looks a big leap forward, a neat three dial instrument pack and most of the minor controls being tidied into a touch screen controller.

Pricing sits mainly in the £17,000 to £23,000 bracket and the Mazda3 is offered as a five-door hatchback or a four-door 'Fastback' saloon, the latter bodystyle rivalling cars like the Volkswagen Golf and the Audi A3 saloon. The car is offered with the sort of hi-tech features that were the preserve of luxury saloons.

The mobile system is particularly interesting, following the likes of Toyota into the market with a system that allows the car to pair with a smartphone and display Facebook and Twitter updates. A nine-speaker Bose audio system is also available.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda Range: Urban 25.4 (11.1) – 60.1 (4.7). Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2) – 83.1 (3.4). Combined 35.3 (8.0) – 72.4 (3.9). $CO_2$ emissions (g/km) 188 – 104.

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales only, subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 01.07.14 and 30.09.14 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% finance available on all Mazda6 models with no minimum deposit on Mazda Personal Contract Purchase. At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available, (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Finance subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services RHI ISK. *0% offer available to individuals for orders received between 01.07.14 and 01.09.14. Free fuel based on Mazda Personal Contract Hire on CX-5 2WD SE-L Diesel, 42 months, 6,000 miles per year, excluding Metallic paint. Rental and excess charges are based on the current VAT rate. An excess charge of up to £1,875ppm will be applied for mileage in excess of 9,000 mile p.a. Excess charges also apply if the car is not serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and returned to Mazda Contract Hire in a condition commensurate with the BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age and mileage. Package includes R.F.L. and Mazda Roadside Assistance. Offer subject to availability and status. UK supplied vehicles only. For full specification, details, terms and conditions contact your local retailer. Guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Details correct at time of publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Personal contract hire by ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Mazda Contract Hire, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. Models shown: Mazda6 Saloon 150ps Sport Nav Diesel, OTR from £25,895. Mazda CX-5 150ps 2WD SE-L Diesel, OTR from £23,695. Models shown feature optional Soul Red Metallic paint, Mazda6 (£660), and optional Pearlescent paint, Mazda CX-5 (£540). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. °Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction.

# Venga just one of Kia's models to up its game

**By David Banner**

**Kia's good-looking and roomy supermini MPV isn't quite there yet in terms of cabin quality but it isn't far off. Aspects of the interior feel really classy and the folding rear seats work well.**

The 1.4-litre CRDi diesel isn't the Venga's best unit but it delivers 63mpg economy with the aid of a standard stop/start system.

As car buyers we like our preconceptions. Without them how could we possibly make sense of the monumental range of choice we're faced with?

There are just too many cars out there and it's really useful if we can dismiss some of them out of hand based on what we think we know about the companies that make them. Now get ready for the bad news, if you don't occasionally revise these prejudices towards certain makes or models, you might end up missing out in a big way. For example and like it or not, anybody looking for a small family car with a diesel engine should at least consider the Kia Venga 1.4 CRDi.

If you're thinking that Kia makes basic, cheap cars that fall below the quality standards set but the big name brands, you've just proven the point about revising those preconceptions from time to time. Much to the consternation of Ford, Vauxhall, Volkswagen, Renault and the other companies that UK car buyers gravitate towards by default, Kia has been on the up.

We've seen a concerted effort by the Korean firm to up its game and compete on an equal footing with the big players.

The Venga is a supermini MPV and prime evidence of the progress that has been made. It's built in Europe to European quality standards and designed to European tastes for sale on the European market. As Europeans and with Kia having gone to all this trouble, we really should give it a chance.

It's the diesel Venga we're concerned with here, a model that will be crucial to the car's success in its intended European heartland. The engine is a 1.4-litre CRDi common-rail injection unit with 89bhp at 4,000rpm and 163Nm of torque between 1,750 and 2,750rpm.

Acceleration from 0-62mph takes 14seconds which is far from lively but the engine gives up its power in a smooth manner with good flexibility. It's not the most refined unit, filling the cabin with booming sound when pushed hard and coming over a little coarse on part throttle.

The actual handling of the Venga is worthy of praise with the well-weighted steering provoking crisp responses.

## Roundabouts

Don't expect anything too dynamic because this is a taller vehicle than a conventional supermini and its height is felt in corners through a bit of body roll. The chunky steering wheel feels good in the hands and the upright driving position affords good visibility, although the A-pillars do obstruct your view on roundabouts. The ride is comfortable, the suspension taking bumps in its stride, and the Venga generally feels very at home in the urban streets where most owners will use it.

The cabin is what it's all about here and the Venga is certainly roomy with plenty of legroom and a boot of 440-litres. Kia has put particular thought into how owners will accommodate their luggage and the boot area can be extended to 570 litres by sliding the rear seat forward or through the two-tier boot floor, even before you get involved in folding the rear seats down. When you are forced to employ Kia's Fold & Dive seating system, which operates with a reassuring solidity, the 60:40 split rear seats drop to create a flat load floor with a 1,552mm load length and a 1,253 litre capacity.

Kia's quest to enhance the quality of its products has been a successful one and the parts of the Venga that you look at and touch most regularly appear to be a match for the sector's finest. The design is uncomplicated and there are nice details like the tactile metallic bezels on the main dials and the crisp illumination of the instruments.

Before it began clambering up market, Kia was known for low prices and lots of equipment. You still get a fair bit of kit for your money in the Venga but the prices reflect Kia's desire for parity with mainstream rivals. The trim levels are handily dubbed 1, 2 and 3. The entry-level one featuring basics like electric windows, a CD stereo, the Fold & Dive seating system and a centre armrest. The car comes in a single five-door bodystyle with six-speed gearboxes for the diesel models featured here.

The diesel Vengas come with the EcoDynamics badge on their tailgates which refers to the presence of Kia's EcoDynamics fuel saving technology. The highlight of this is the ISG stop-start system which turns off the engine when the car is stationary and restarts it automatically when it's time to move off. The Venga also has gear-shift indicator lights and low rolling resistance tyres on versions with 15" or 16" wheels. The 1.4 CRDi diesel returns close to 63mpg on the combined cycle with emissions of 117g/km. This doesn't make it the cleanest car in the sector but it comes close.


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# Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

# Smart dormer home on fringe of village

On the market with JJ Dell & Co, Elton, in Nant Lane, on the edge of Morda, is a well appointed detached dormer bungalow in a quiet village position.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has an entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, four double bedrooms, a bathroom, cloakroom, garage, car parking and gardens.

In more detail the kitchen has an integrated oven, hob and vinyl flooring. The lounge has a fireplace with a solid fuel burner set in a pine surround, and there is a study with stairs to the first floor.

There are four bedrooms and a bathroom with a white suite of wash hand basin, bath with an electric shower over, WC, heated towel rail and vinyl flooring.

Outside are double gates to a driveway which in turn leads to an adjoining garage with electric roller shutter front door and an internal door to the kitchen.

To the front is a walled garden, and there is an attractive side and rear garden with a vegetable plot, patio, greenhouse and shed.

The property is priced at £194,950. Contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or visit the website www.jjdell.co.uk for more details.

# Extended five-bed residence dating back to 17th century

The White House, Maesbrook, is believed to date from the 17th century with several later extensions. It has an entrance hall, sitting room with inglenook fireplace and woodburner, snug, dining room with woodburner, kitchen/breakfast room with Aga, a utility, boot room, study, downstairs shower room, WC, five bedrooms and a bathroom. There are large gardens, ample parking and a double garage.

The property is priced at £425,000 – call Balfours on 01743 353511 to view.

# Roomy bungalow in elevated spot with far-reaching views

Number 12 Acorn Rise, Welshpool, is a delightful detached bungalow in an elevated, yet convenient position with panoramic countryside views. With mains gas, double glazing and solar roof panels, it has a hallway, kitchen/breakfast room, and lounge/dining room with patio doors to a raised terrace with wonderful views.

There are three bedrooms, two with wardrobes, a bathroom and boarded loft space

Outside is a large detached garage, parking for four/five cars and attractive garden.

The property is priced at £198,000 – call Halls on 01938 555552 to view.

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# Halls 1845

This imposing 1930's detached FIVE bedroom family home offers immaculate and spacious accommodation which boasts original features in all rooms. South East Facing with views to the Heritage railway and countryside beyond, this property is warmed by oil fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing throughout. With excellent commuter link and glorious countryside walks on door step. EPC Rating E.

**Blymhill Villa, Llynclys**
**Price: £329,950**
Contact Oswestry

An imposing Georgian fronted property recently refurbished to a high standard whilst retaining many original features. The property is currently established as a 5 star Gold Award Bed and Breakfast providing three luxurious guest suites however, the property is also a wonderful family home. Offering six bedrooms and beautiful accommodation.Current EPC Rating E.

**Woolston House, Woolston**
**Price: £595,000**
Contact Oswestry

This extraordinary detached family home dates back to 1803 and offers characterful accommodation throughout and must be viewed to be appreciated. The property is complimented by a detached self contained annexe and 1.5 acres of grounds. The accommodation is spacious and offers four bedrooms in the main house and one bedroom in the annexe. EPC E.

**Plas Cerrig, Wern**
**Price: £560,000**
Contact Oswestry

An immaculate South facing detached family home in excellent decorative order throughout with views to the Breidden Hills in the distance. The property is warmed by LPG gas central heating and benefits from double glazing and the remainder of its NHBC Guarantee. This property needs to be viewed to appreciate its size, location and accommodation. EPC Rating D.

**Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech**
**Price: £349,950**
Contact Oswestry

An executive detached four bedroom family bungalow situated down a quiet lane in the popular village of four Crosses. Offering spacious accommodation, landscaped gardens and double garage. Warmed by oil fired central heating. L Shaped Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility, Sitting Room, Two Bedrooms with Ensuites, Bedroom Three, Bedroom Four, Bathroom, Gardens, Garage. EPC Rating D.

**Breidden Court, Four Crosses**
**Price: £320,000**
Contact Oswestry

A rare opportunity to purchase a detached country cottage (formally a businessman's holiday home and on the market for the first time in over 30 years) with approx 20 acres of woodland with babbling brook and superb unspoilt views. This property benefits from seclusion but is not isolated with nearby commuter links just 4 miles away. The property enjoys a first floor conservatory which appreciates the breathtaking views.

**Bryn Cottage, Llwynmawr, Glyn Ceiriog**
**Price: £325,000**
Contact Oswestry

A charming detached county cottage situated in a secluded rural location 3.5 miles from Oswestry Town Centre. This property will appeal to those looking for seclusion but not isolation. In all about 0.48 acre. Mainly Oil Fired Central Heating System with Electric Off Peak Storage Heaters. EPC Rating F.

- Well presented
- Garden & Orchard
- Potential Annexe
- Four Bedrooms

**Ochr, Llawnt,**
**Price: £299,950**
Contact Oswestry

4.5 ACRE SMALL HOLDING. This detached family home, a registered small holding is located in a most picturesque rural location near to the small village of Llanfihangel. Reception Hall, Dining Hall, Living Room with feature Multi Fuel Stove, Sitting Room, Large Conservatory, Kitchen, WC/Utility Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Second Floor Bedroom, Parking, Gardens, Paddocks. EPC Rating F.

**Llanfiangel, Powys**
**Price: Offers in Region of £299,950**
Contact Oswestry

Enjoying the most imposing position within this most sought after location. Offering immaculate spacious accommodation and set in a generous sized. Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen Dining Room, Utility, Two Master Suites, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Second Floor with Two Large Bedrooms with views, Double Garage, Parking, Gardens.

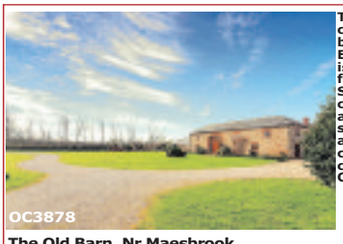
**Woodlands Park, Oswestry**
**Price: £385,000**
Contact Oswestry

This three double bedroom detached bungalow is situated in a pleasant, sought after, well established neighbourhood and is within easy reach of Oswestry Town centre and its numerous amenities; in addition a regular bus service passes the door. The property which enjoys an open aspect to the front would make a ideal retirement property or alternatively an equally appealing family home.

**Llanforda Rise, Oswestry**
**Price: £225,000**
Contact Oswestry

A charming semi detached Edwardian family home situated in a popular and most convenient semi rural location. This property has been extended and benefits from original features and central heating. The accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, Sitting Room, Living Room, Kitchen, Inner Hallway, Sun Room, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms all with views, Gardens, Sheds. EPC Rating F.

**2 The Laurels, Queenshead**
**Price: £189,950**
Contact Oswestry




This superbly presented converted threshing barn overlooks its own Equestrian Haven and is located conveniently for hacking routes. Sympathetically converted and restored and now provides stunning characterful accommodation which complements the contemporary interiors. Current EPC Rating D

**The Old Barn, Nr Maesbrook**
**Price: £749,950**
Contact Oswestry

A two bedroom property situated in the popular village location of West Felton with good commuter links to both Shrewsbury and Oswestry. An ideal investment purchase or first time buy. The property benefits from double glazing, parking and gardens. Lounge, Kitchen / Breakfast Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gardens to Front and Rear, Two Parking Spaces. EPC Rating D.

**Applewood Heights, West Felton**
**Price: £104,500**
Contact Oswestry

A superbly presented detached family home dating back to the early 19th century and set in a glorious rural location surrounded by magnificent countryside, and offering versatile accommodation in combination with excellent equestrian facilities. This property offers character and charm throughout. Current EPC Rating E.

**Ochoryffordd, Nr Llanrhaeadr**
**Price: £399,950**
Contact Oswestry

This handsome former mill comprises a spacious family home, large self contained annexe, outbuildings and nine acres of land including cottage style gardens, pasture and woodland. The property has been extensively refurbished over the last ten years by the current owners. Situated in an enchanting and delightful rural location with 800 acres of woodland walks on the doorstep. Current EPC Rating D.

**The Old Mill, Candy**
**Price: £750,000**
Contact Oswestry

This deceptively spacious four bedroom semi detached Victorian Villa sits prominently overlooking the Vale of Llangollen. This property has been updated by the current owners and provides character and charm throughout. The accommodation is spread over four floor and benefits from superb views. Hall, Lounge, Bathroom, Three Bedroom, Gardens, Double Garage. EPC Rating E.

**Russell Street, Cefn Mawr**
**Price: £199,950**
Contact Oswestry

This stunning brand new family home has been designed to an exacting standard and is situated in a pleasant rural location with views of the open countryside. Care and attention is reflected in the Eco-Friendliness, space, layout and finish.

This timber frame property will be sold with the benefit of a 10 year warrantee and must be viewed to be appreciated.

**Rosslyn, Gwern-y-brenin**
**Price: Offers over £450,000**
Contact Oswestry

A superbly spacious individual barn conversion standing in grounds extending to approx 1.8 acres and offering much character and flowing accommodation which would especially suit family living. Designed and converted to a high specification this superb barn conversion. Dining Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility, Shower Room, Superb Lounge, Master Bedroom, Three further Bedrooms, Workshops, Paddock, Barn, Garage.

**Harlan House, Nr Weston Rhyn**
**Price: £450,000**
Contact Oswestry

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## Jasmine Close, Oswestry

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Offers in Region of £174,995

## West Felton

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4 bedroom detached dormer bungalow: Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Ground Floor Bedroom Ensuite, Lounge with feature fireplace, Conservatory, Dining Room, Study/Bedroom 4, Utility, Kitchen Family Room, Bathroom, Oil Fired CH, Double Glazing, Driveway, Garage and Gardens. NO CHAIN. EPC Rating D

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NEW INSTRUCTION

### Regent Court, Oswestry

A most comfortably appointed two bedroom ground floor retirement apartment conveniently placed for local town amenities. Further service charges will apply. EPC RATING D.

Offers In Region Of £112,950

NEW INSTRUCTION

### Old St Martins Road

A two bedroom end terraced house. Agents Note: The property is currently tenanted but notice has been served for possession. EPC RATING E.

Offers In Region Of £90,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

S.S.T.C

### Offa, Chirk

●●IN NEED OF MODERNISATION - FOR SALE WITH NO ONWARD CHAIN●● - Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this 3 bedroom detached family house which enjoys a popular residential locality. EPC Rating D.

Offers over £110,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

### Penycae Close, Gobowen

The property enjoys a cul-de-sac position on the outskirts of this popular village with improved road network, commuting to Wrexham, Chester and Shrewsbury. This tastefully extended 3 bedroom detached family house. EPC RATING D.

Offers in region of £170,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

### Cabin Lane, Oswestry

Enjoying a popular residential locality, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this tastefully improved 3 bedroom detached family house. EPC Rating D.

Offers in region of £174,950

NEW PRICE

### Roft Street, Oswestry

3 bed detached Victorian town house sympathetically improved over the years by the present owners yet still retaining a wealth of character features. EPC RATING D.

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NEW INSTRUCTION

### George Avenue, Trevor

●●FOR SALE WITH NO ONWARD CHAIN - IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO WORLD HERITAGE SITE/FRONCYSYLLTE AQUEDUCT●● - Spacious two bedroom terraced house. EPC RATING E.

Offers in region of £99,950

NEW PRICE

### Llanarmon DC, Llangollen

●●FOR SALE WITH NO ONWARD CHAIN●● - Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this tastefully improved and most deceptively spacious 3 bedroom end terraced property to the market. EPC Rating E

Offers in region of £135,000

NEW PRICE

### Ifton Fields, St Martins

●●OFFERS INVITED ●● - Enjoying a pleasant cul-de-sac location a most well appointed and deceptively spacious 2 bed mid terraced property which needs to be viewed to appreciate the excellent accommodation. EPC RATING C.

Offers Over of £109,995

NEW INSTRUCTION

### Oaklands Road, Chirk

●●FOR SALE WITH NO ONWARD CHAIN●● - Sought after residential locality overlooking the world heritage site/canal to rear. Spacious two bedroom semi detached character cottage. AWAITING EPC.

Offers in region of £139, 950

NEW PRICE

### Llwyn Mawr, LLangollen

Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this spacious character 3 bedroom semi detached country cottage which is set in generous gardens. EPC Rating F

Offers in region of £229,500

NEW INSTRUCTION

### Winllan Road, Llansantffraid

●●FOR SALE WITH NO CHAIN● - A tastefully improved deceptively spacious 3 bedroom mature detached family house which enjoys a pleasant edge of village location. EPC RATING E.

Offers in region of £149,995

### Leg Street, Oswestry

Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this tastefully improved centrally located two bedroom flat to the market which offers comfortable accommodation over two floors. EPC Rating D

£450 PCM

# Landlords wanted

**Richmond Harvey** are actively seeking rental properties in the **Oswestry** and **Chirk** areas with tenants ready to move-in.

If you have a property you wish to rent out or would like some advice on where to go next, please contact Edward on **01691 654222.**

LET AGREED

### Copthorne Road

Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this luxury two bedroom apartment to the market which is located within this exclusive development finished to a high specification. EPC Rating E

£550 PCM

LET AGREED

### Llys Y Nant, Glyn Ceiriog

Situated in the picturesque Ceiriog Valley within this recently constructed apartment complex of just eight properties, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this modern purpose built first floor apartment. EPC RATING D.

£450 PCM

LET AGREED

### High Fawr Avenue, Oswestry

Richmond Harvey Properties are favoured with instructions to market this most delightful two bedroom mews cottage to the market which has been tastefully improved by the present owner. EPC Rating D.

£400 PCM

LET AGREED

### Copthorne Road

Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this luxury two bedroom apartment to the market which is located within this exclusive development finished to a high specification. EPC Rating D

£650 pcm

LET AGREED

### Berwyn Avenue, Chirk Bank

●●AVAILABLE FROM 1ST AUGUST●● Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this tastefully improved 3 bedroom detached bungalow to the rental market. EPC RATING D

£600 PCM

### Queens Road, Oswestry

Richmond Harvey are delighted to release this most well appointed two bedroom first floor apartment which enjoys a sought after location within one of Oswestry's premier residential locations. EPC rating B. AVAILABLE NOW.

£550 PCM

LET AGREED

### Llys Y Nant, Glyn Ceiriog

Situated in the picturesque Ceiriog Valley within this recently constructed apartment complex of just eight properties, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this modern purpose built ground floor apartment. EPC RATING D.

£450 PCM

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# TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel :01691 679631

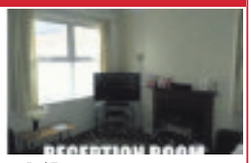
## LETTINGS

- Oswestry, 1 Bed Flat £350pcm
- Weston Rhyn, 2 Bed Ap't £400pcm
- Oswestry, 3 Bed Ap't £400pcm
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Ap't £430pcm
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Ter £425pcm
- Oswestry, 1 Bed Ap't £450pcm
- Oswestry, 3 Bed Ter £490pcm
- Llansilin, 3 Bed £575pcm
- Whittington, 3 Bed £550pcm
- Gobowen, 4 Bed Det £825pcm

***Fees Apply***

•URGENTLY WANTED!!
•2/3 EDROOM PROPERTIES
•TO LET IN OSWESTRY,
•CHIRK AND
•SURROUNDING VILLAGES.
•CALL FOR A FREE MARKET

## STOKE - ON - TRENT



- Spacious
- Five Bedrooms
- Garage
- End Terrace
- Entered in our August Auction
- Ideal Investment Property

**Guide price £90,000**

## OSWESTRY

- Modern End Mews House
- Two Bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
- Ideal F.T.B./ Investment
- Off Road Parking
- Edge of Town Location

**Offers over £109,000**

## LITTLE DAWLEY, TELFORD

- TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Potential for Development
- Detached Garage
- Gardens To All Sides
- Approximately 2 Acres of Woodland

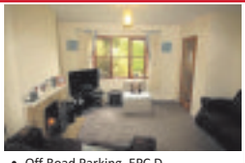
**Guide price £120,000**

## ST MARTINS

- Two Bedroom Mews
- Well Maintained Throughout
- Views To Rear of Property
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens

**£120,000**

## WESTON RHYN



- Three Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Semi Detached House
- Off Road Parking. EPC D
- Popular Location
- Two Reception Rooms

**Offers in the region of £137,000**

## MORDA, OSWESTRY

- Detached Family Property
- Four Double Bedrooms
- One En-Suite. EPC C
- Well Maintained
- Lounge, Utility Room
- Lawned Gardens
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating

**£206,995**

## OSWESTRY

- Attractive End of Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Many Original Features
- Front and Rear Gardens. EPC E
- Close to Oswestry Town Centre

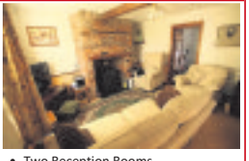
**£139,950**

## FOXEN MANOR, FOUR CROSSES

- Extended Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Sitting Room
- Ground Floor WC
- Master Bedroom with Ensuite
- Family Bathroom

**£159,950**

## LLANYMYNECH



- Detached Village Cottage
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Ideal For Further Development
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking. EPC G
- Great Potential

**Offers in the region of £165,000**

## RHOS Y BRITHDIR, LLANFYLLIN

- Detached Country Cottage
- Beautiful Landscaped Gardens
- Summerhouse. EPC E.
- Rural Location
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory & Utility

**£325,000**

## GLYN CEIRIOG

- Spacious Family Home
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Gardens to the Front and Rear

**£180,000**

## FORDEN, WELSHPOOL

- Superb Detached Property
- 4 Bedrooms, 3 Receptions
- Views Across Long Mountain
- Well Maintained Throughout

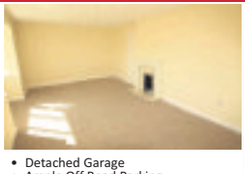
**£345,000**

## GLYN CEIRIOG

- Five Bedroomed Detached Former Inn
- Large Lawned Gardens
- Stable. EPC G
- Various Outbuildings
- Set Within the Beautiful Ceiriog

**£240,000**

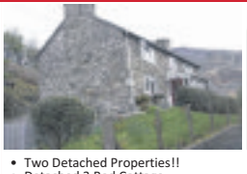
## OSWESTRY



- Spacious Detached Bungalow
- Sought After Location
- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Garage
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Gardens to Front and Rear

**Offers in the region of £225,000**

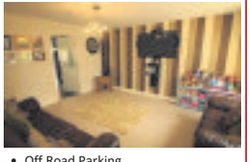
## LLANGYNOG



- Two Detached Properties!!
- Detached 3 Bed Cottage
- Detached 2 Bed Bungalow
- Investment Potential
- Valley Views
- Viewing Essential

**Reduced to £240,000**

## CHIRK



- Three Storey Semi Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Master En-suite
- Off Road Parking
- Single Garage
- Paved Patio Area

**£174,950**

## WELSHPOOL

- Character Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Offering Great Potential
- 6.75 Acres. EPC G

**£360,000**

## ARDDLEEN

- Modern Detached House
- Four Bedrooms (Two ensuite)
- Double Garage & Driveway
- Cul de Sac Location

**£250,000**

## NEWBRIDGE

- 3 Bedroom Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking

**Offers in excess of £180,000**

## CASTLE MILL

- Superb Country Cottage
- Updated To A High Standard
- Three Bedrooms. EPC D
- Set in Approx. 1 Acre Gardens

**£368,000**

## LLANSANTFFRAID

- Barn Conversion
- Double Garage/Workshop
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms

**£380,000**

## HENLLE, GOBOWEN

- Detached Barn Conversion
- Four Bedrooms
- Many Original Features
- Exposed Beams

**£397,500**

2-4 Willow Street, Oswestry, SY11 1AA Visit all our propertiesat www.townandcountryoswestry.com

Next Auction August 28th 2014

# TOWN & COUNTRY
PROPERTY AUCTIONS

## We are looking for properties in Oswestry and surrounding villages, North Wales, Mid Wales, Shrewsbury and Telford to replace stock sold in previous auctions.

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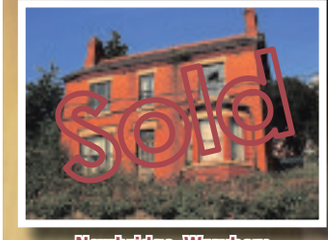
Llansilin, Powys

Oswestry, Shropshire

Llanrhaeadr YM, Powys

Pontrobert, Welshpool

St. Martins, Shropshire



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Avon Close, Little Dawley, Telford

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**01691 679595**

rightmove.co.uk

RICS

**Mancot, Chapel Lane, Knockin Heath**

- Spacious det dormer bungalow
- 2 Receptions, 4/5 bedrooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast, utility, sun rm
- En-suite, bathroom/shower rooms
- Oil central heating, double glazing
- Well maintained landscaped gardens
- Inspection highly recommended
- EPC Rating = 69 (C)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

**£425,000**

**31 Summerfield Close, Oswestry**
**£124,950**

- Two bedroom semi-detached house
- Gas-fired central heating, double glazing
- Lounge and kitchen/breakfast
- Ample on-site parking
- Gardens to both front and rear
- Ideal first time or investment purchase
- EPC Rating =63 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

## 23 Heritage Way, Llanymynech

- Modern detached 4 bedroom house
- 2 receptions, cloaks, kitchen, utility
- Master bedroom with en-suite shower
- Double glazed, LP gas central heating
- Edge of village location
- No onward chain. EPC Rating = 81 (B)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

**£235,000**

**22 Dyffryn Foel, Llansantffraid**
**£147,500**

- Well Maintained Semi detached house
- 2 Receptions, 3 bedrooms, cloaks
- Oil-fired central heating. Edge of village.
- Private parking, Garage, enclosed paved rear
- EPC Rating = 66 (D). No Chain

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

## 30 Maes Y Dderwen, Llanfyllin

- Modern semi-detached house
- 3 Bedrooms, 2 receptions, conservatory
- En-suite shower and family bathroom
- Oil-fired central heating, double glazing
- On-site parking and enclosed gardens
- EPC Rating = 78 (C)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

**£149,995**

## RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LET

**OSWESTRY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Self Cont G/F, Bedsit, No Pets. (No Lease Fee)(EER=32) | £150 pcm (£250 deposit) |
| Self Cont 2nd/F, Bedsit, No Pets. (No Lease Fee) (EER=16) | £180 pcm (£280 deposit) |
| 1 Bed 1st/F Flat, Parking, Garden, FTE, No Pets. (EER=52) | £295 pcm (£395 deposit) |
| 1 Bed 1st/F Flat, Elec/He, FTE, No Pets. (EER=47) | £310 pcm (£410 deposit) |
| 1 Bed 2nd/F Flat, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets. (EER=67) | £320 pcm (£420 deposit) |
| 1 Bed End-Terr, House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets. (EER=46) | £345 pcm (£345 deposit) |
| 1 Bed 1st/F Apart, Elec/He, FTE, No Pets. (EER-66) | £350 pcm (£350 deposit) |
| 1 Bed G/F Apart, Elec/He, FTE, No Pets. (EER=53) | £325 pcm (£325 deposit) |
| 1 Bed 1st/F Flat, FTE, No Pets. No Smokers (EER=57) | £350 pcm (£450 deposit) |
| 2 Bed Mid-Terr House, FTE, No Pets. (EER=31) | £375 pcm (£475 deposit) |
| 2 Bed G/F Apartment, FTE, No Pets. (EER=65) | £350 pcm (£350 deposit) |
| 2 Bed Semi-Det House, FTE, No Pets. (EER=52) | £375 pcm (£375 deposit) |
| 2 Bed Part/Furnished Flat, FTE, No Pets.(EER=5) | £400 pcm (£925 deposit) |
| 3 Bed Semi-Det, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets. (EER=60) | £495 pcm (£595 deposit) |
| **LLANYMYNECH** | |
| 3 Bed Det House, Oil C/H, Parking, FTE, No Pets. (EER=60) | £595 pcm (£695 deposit) |
| **PENYBONT LE** | |
| 4 Bed Det Cottage, Oil C/H, Garage, FTE, No Pets. (EER=55) | £660 pcm (£760 deposit) |
| **GOBOWEN** | |
| 3 Bed Semi, Gas C/H, Garage, FTE, No Pets. (EER=65) | £595 pcm (£695 deposit) |
| **BABBINSWOOD** | |
| 3 Bed Det Cottage, Elec/Heat, FTE, No Pets. (EER=18) | £550 pcm (£650 deposit) |
| **WEST FELTON** | |
| 2 Bed End-Terr House, Elect/Heat, FTE, No Pets. (EER=44) | £410 pcm (£510 deposit) |

**Non-Optional Fees:**
**Application Fee: £40. Lease Fee: £132.**
**All our rentals can now be found on www.rightmove.co.uk**

**45 Bryn-Y-Ddol, Welshpool**
**£109,950**

- Mid Terrace House with ample parking
- Sitting/Dining Room, Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C
- Gas fired heating . Double glazed
- Parking to front. Patio and lawn to rear
- First Time Buyer/Investment property
- Energy efficiency rating = 61

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**5 Maes Derwen, Llanfair Caereinion**
**£149,950**

- Spacious Semi-Detached Family House
- Sitting room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Ground Floor Bedroom with En-suite W.C
- Three Further Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Decking with open views. Terraced garden
- Energy efficiency rating = 68

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**Minffordd Y Fawnog, Winllan Road Llansantffraid**
**£175,000**

- Semi-Detached Country Cottage
- Having been completely refurbished
- Sitting & Living Rooms, Kitchen/Breakfast
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, D/G. Oil Heating
- Spacious front garden. Further det garden
- Rural outlook over farmland
- Energy efficiency rating = 45

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**2 Brynfa Avenue, Welshpool**
**£325,000**

- Modern Detached Executive Style House
- Severn Valley views to Long Mountain
- Lounge & Sitting Rooms, Dining Area to Kitchen
- Spacious and very comfortable Sun Room
- 4 Bedrooms (2 En-suite), Family Bathroom
- Detached Double Garage with lean-to Store
- Energy efficiency rating = 71

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**The Pines, Trelystan, Leighton**
**£410,000**

- Equestrian Smallholding extending to 4.5 Acres
- L Shaped Sitting/Dining Room, Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom. Utility Room, Sep W.C
- Oil Fired Heating. D/Glazed. Attached Garage
- Stable Block & Tack Room. Manège, Stable/Workshop
- Glorious views over countryside
- Energy efficiency rating = 42

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**53 Little Henfaes, Welshpool**

- Modern End Terrace Family House
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining Room
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gas Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Parking. Enclosed lawn/patio to rear
- Energy efficiency rating = 66

**£135,000**

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**114 Gungrog Hill, Welshpool**
**£185,000**

- Modern Detached House
- Sitting & Dining Rooms, Kitchen, Utility
- 4 Bedrooms, En-Suite and Bathroom
- Gas Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Garage and gardens. No Chain
- Views across the Severn Valley
- Energy efficiency rating = 68

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**Rhossili, Bronwylfa Rd, Welshpool**
**£169,950**

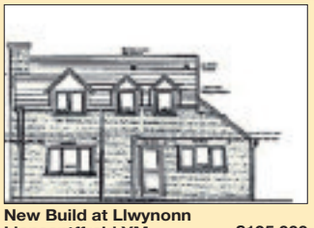
- Detached Town Property
- 2 Receptions, Kitchen. Utility
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gas C/H. D/Glazed. Cavity wall insulation
- Attached Garage with small Workshop
- Front garden & spacious rear garden
- Energy efficiency rating = 60

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**Glan-y-Llyn, Meifod**
**£439,950**

- Residential Smallholding ext to 5.9 Acres
- 3 Receptions. Kitchen with range cooker
- Spacious Reception Room/Workshop
- Three Bedrooms(1 En-suite), Bathroom
- General Purpose Building over 2300 sq.ft.
- Two Bay Field Shelter & adjoining yard.
- Three useful Paddocks. EPC rating = 48

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**New Build at Llwynonn Llansantffraid YM**
**£195,000**

- Detached New Build House.
- Living Room. Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Ground Floor Bedroom with Wet Room.
- Two First Floor Bedrooms , Bathroom
- Double Glazed. Single Garage.
- Ample garden surround. Village location.
- Energy efficiency rating = TBC

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

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NEW

**Queens Road**
**Oswestry** £445,000

- A rare opportunity to purchase a fine Detached Late Victorian House offering well proportioned accommodation, set in mature gardens
- Drawing Room, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Garden Room, Conservatory, Open plan Kitchen and Breakfast Room, Utility Room, Cloakroom
- Separate WC, 5 Bedrooms, En-suite to Master Bedroom and Dressing Room to Bedroom 3 and Cellar. Gas C/H. EPC Rating F

NEW

**Cefn Coch**
**Llanrhaeadr** £225,000

- An increasingly rare opportunity to purchase a Residential Smallholding comprising a 2 Bedroom Cottage and land extending to 5.62 acres (2.27 ha) of agricultural land and woodland
- Situated in a truly idyllic rural setting overlooking the Afon Rhaeadr close to the Pistyll Rhaeadr Waterfall
- The cottage itself is in need of some internal modernisation works
- The land could be used for a number of purposes including agricultural, equine or recreational purposes. EPC Rating G

NEW

**Penyfoel**
**Llanymynech** £278,000

- Unique opportunity to purchase a country property in an elevated position
- With spectacular views over the Shropshire borders
- Fully renovated with flexible living accommodation
- Mainly set on the first floor to take full advantage of the views
- Utility Room, Kitchen/Dining Room, First Floor Lounge
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom and Ground Floor Living Room/Study
- Within excellent landscaped gardens. D/G & Oil C/H. EPC Rating

NEW

**Primrose Lane**
**Pant** £179,995

- Rare opportunity to purchase a spacious Country Cottage
- Set in 0.17 of an acre of gardens
- Significantly improved yet retains a host of original features
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Inner Hallway, Ground Floor Bathroom
- Lounge/Dining Room and 2 First Floor Bedrooms
- Large landscaped gardens with vegetable plots, Workshop & stone garden shed
- Recently installed Oil C/H and majority uPVC windows. EPC Rating

NEW

**Llanforda Mead**
**Oswestry** £235,000

- Spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow situated in a sought after location
- Entrance Hall, Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, landscaped rear garden
- Off-road parking single garage, summerhouse and garden shed
- Gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing. EPC Rating D

NEW

**Park Terrace**
**Oswestry** £92,000

- 2 Bedroom Mid-Terrace Property
- Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room
- 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Excellent Front Garden with Seating Area
- 2 Good Size Rear Storage Sheds
- Gas C/H. D/G. EPC Rating D

NEW

**Rhydycroesau**
**Nr Oswestry** £395,000

- A unique Country Cottage in an elevated position over looking its own grounds which extend to 1.03 acres and the surrounding countryside beyond
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Rm, Kitchen, Study, Utility, WC, Ground Floor Guest Bedroom with En-Suite, 4 1st Floor Beds, Family Bathrm & Dressing Rm
- The gardens contain large fishing pool surrounded by mature shrubs & trees & bordered by a small stream
- Selection of outbuildings which could offer a host of future uses (subject to planning). EPC E

NEW

**Wat's Meadow**
**Gobowen** £226,995

- Brand new detached family home situated on the prestigious Wat's Meadow development constructed Fletcher Homes
- Finished to a high specification using only quality materials
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Utility, Cloaks
- Bedroom 1 with En-Suite, 3 further bedrooms
- Larger private rear garden and double garage
- 10 Year NHBC Certificate. Gas C/H. D/G

NEW

**Ascot Road**
**Oswestry** £182,500

- Modern 4 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- Master Bedroom (en-suite), 3 further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Double Width Driveway & Garage, Good Size Rear Garden
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing. EPC Rating C

**Hampton Road**
**Oswestry** £300,000

- A rare opportunity to purchase a 4 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Retains a host of original features
- 2 Reception Rooms, Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility Room,
- Downstairs Cloakroom, 4 Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Set in an elevated position with views over Oswestry
- Landscaped gardens to front & rear & an integral single garage
- Gas Central Heating. EPC Rating E

**Daywell crescent**
**Gobowen** £127,500

- Spacious 3 bedroom Semi-Detached property
- Property has been improved by the current owners
- Lounge, Large Kitchen/Dining Rm, Rear Lobby/Utility
- Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Lawned gardens, large graveled parking area
- Gas C/H and uPVC D/G. EPC Rating D

**Oerley Way**
**Oswestry** £235,000

- Spacious Detached House situated on a large plot
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Sitting Rm/Dining Rm, Conservatory
- Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility, 4 Bedrooms
- Family Bathrm. Garage, D/G, Gas C/H. EPC Rating F
- Driveway with lawn & secluded rear garden

**Cae Onan**
**Morda** £206,995

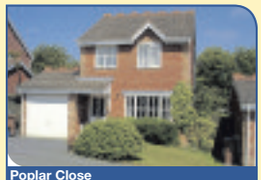
- Spacious 4 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Rm, Kitchen, Utility, Cloaks
- 4 Bedrooms (master en-suite) & Family Bathroom
- Rear garden, integral garage & off-road parking
- Gas C/H, and uPVC D/G throughout. EPC Rating C

**Heritage Way**
**Llanymynech** £219,995

- Immaculate 4 Bedroom Detached Home
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility
- 4 Beds (master en-suite), Bathroom
- Integral Garage, Large Gated Driveway
- Landscaped Rear Gardens
- D/G, Propane Gas C/H. EPC Rating D

**Hammonds Place**
**Gobowen** £99,995

- A spacious 2 Bedroom End-Terrace Property
- Lounge, Conservatory and Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Large brick storage building & adjoining open fronted storage shed
- Large plot with driveway, off-road parking private rear garden
- uPVC D/G and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D



**Poplar Close**
**St Martins** £149,995

- Deceptively spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Conservatory
- Master Bedroom (en-suite), 2 further Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Private garden to rear, Large driveway & single garage
- Gas C/H, Double Glazing. EPC Rating D

KnightFrank.co.uk

Knight Frank

# The Lake Vyrnwy Estate, Powys, Wales

## Rural and lakeside idyll

This is a fantastic opportunity to purchase a property in a stunning rural location around Lake Vyrnwy. There are five properties for sale and each one is currently vacant and in need of refurbishment/conversion.

For more information and property particulars, please contact Knight Frank.

KnightFrank.co.uk/bristol
edward.dixon@knightfrank.com
01179 452630

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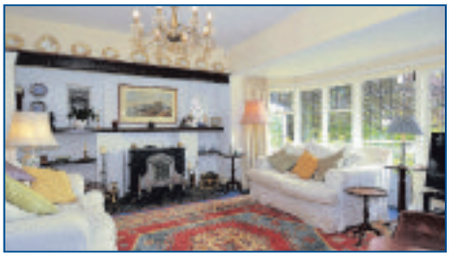

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# New-look Transit is putting on the style

**By John Griffiths**

**When it comes to vans, one size most certainly doesn't fit all.**

Van users have hugely diverse needs and the fragmentation of the van market into different size classes has provided manufacturers with the opportunity to really tailor vans to specific purposes.

Take the Ford Transit Courier. You used to know where you were with a Ford Transit. It was a big, blocky thing and it had all the sophistication of a stag weekend in Magaluf. Buyers loved it though. It was rugged, inexpensive and did the job. Now the Ford Transit is a brand that encompasses a number of different models.

It's a lucrative strategy too, with the upswing in commercial vehicles sales post-recession. Ford expects Transit range sales to grow to 400,000 units per year by 2016, well over 50 per cent more than its 2012 figure and key to that will be the smallest member of the Transit retinue, the Transit Courier.

Although you don't get any choice when it comes to body styles, you'll need to come to a decision about the oily bits under the bonnet. The Courier is available with highly-efficient diesel and petrol engines that target best-in-class fuel economy and offer Auto-Start-Stop on all units. Customers can choose between the Dagenham-built 1.5-litre 75PS and 1.6-litre 95PS Duratorq TDCi diesel engines, plus the tiny 1.0-litre 100PS EcoBoost petrol engine, the 'International Engine of the Year' 2012.

City vans need to do that seemingly impossible thing of being big on the inside but as small as is practicable outside, which is one reason why they all look much of a muchness, namely a cube and a bonnet with the marque's family face grafted on the front.

## Flared

The Transit Courier doesn't deviate too far from this template although the steeply raked windscreen does give it more of a one-box look. Couple that with the typically hefty Ford front grille and some subtly flared wheel arches and it looks handsome. You could see a few of these being converted to surf vans with the right wheels and paint.

But the Courier isn't just about looking good. It's also about making the working environment easy and hassle free. Get inside and you'll find well-sculpted front seats and a dashboard that wouldn't look out of place in a family car, nice use of metallic finishes, wheel-mounted audio controls and a centre console that's pretty close to what you'd get if you'd bought a new Fiesta. That's no real surprise as the Transit Courier rides on Ford's global B-segment chassis which underpins cars like the B-MAX and the Fiesta.

Luxury options include a voice-activated in-car connectivity system, rear-view camera, easy fuel, speed limiter and standard electronic stability control, plus a class-leading variety of safety features. Perhaps the neatest optional touch is the clever Ford Sync with Emergency Assistance set-up.

The Transit Courier delivers load volume of 2.3m3 with a standard full bulkhead and an overall length of 4.16 metres. Practicality highlights include the longest-in-class load length at floor level of 1.62 metres, the best in class access width through sliding rear side doors, a full-height, full-width steel bulkhead (glazed or unglazed) and full compliancy with DIN and ISO standards for load restraints.

With a generous load volume and maximum payload capacity of 660kg, the Transit Courier can accommodate a wide variety of cargo and equipment.

Attractive styling, great engines and a whole lot of consideration poured into making a small van work like a big 'un has resulted in what looks certain to be a sales winner.

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**PEUGEOT 307** HDi turbo, 51 plate, part SH, good condition, diesel, 3 months MoT, 5 months tax, £875. 07969 994124.

**PEUGEOT 307** SW 2.0, 110 BHP HDi, 2002, silver, 130k, tax/MoT, new cambelt , towbar, £950. 01691 659302 or 07528 260056.

**PEUGEOT 406** 1999, very good condition, MoT December 14, Taxed August 14. £400 ono. 01743 360844.

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**RENAULT SCENIC FIDJI**
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**ROVER 75** tourer estate, blue, 51 plate, 11 months Mot, 5 months tax, good condition, new tyres, spares or repair, £250. 07875 374594.

**SUZUKI WAGON** R + Ltd, 53 reg, 37,000 miles, silver, alloys, FSH, MoT, tax, excellent condition, £1,450. 01630 638662.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD New Kuga 2.0 Duratorq TDCi (163PS) (+DPF), A6-AWD: urban 38.2 (7.4), extra urban 51.4 (5.5), combined 45.6 (6.2). Official $CO_2$ emissions 162g/km. Lowest: FORD Focus 1.0 EcoBoost Stop-Start (100PS) 5 Door, M5: urban 48.7 (5.8), extra urban 68.9 (4.1), combined 60.1 (4.7). Official $CO_2$ emissions 109g/km.
†Please consult dealer for full terms and conditions of Motability offers.

# Cherokee has new edge

## By Sharon Walters

**The Cherokee has hauled itself into the here and now with a radical change of focus. Slicker, prettier and with a new-found commitment to interior quality and drivetrain efficiency, welcome to the brave new world of Jeep.**

While it might be slicker and 'townie' it hasn't lost its ability to take on the rough and tough with off-road capability as good as ever.

The old Cherokee was a bit of a redneck, but big-hearted and honest fun all the same but it wasn't really cutting it and sales were slumping steeply. Now Jeep has done a radical makeover of the Cherokee and those who prefer a little more sophistication need to give it some serious attention.

At the top end of the completely revised Cherokee range, the highly specified 2.0-litre Limited 170 Automatic 4x4 version costs £35,695 on-the-road, and features BiXenon headlamps, power tailgate, 18-inch alloy wheels, Nappa leather seats, eight-way power driver's seat, front and rear park assist with back-up camera, automatic headlights and rain sensors, wireless phone charging pad, and keyless Enter 'n' Go, among other equipment, as standard. Very different to the old one.

There'sa choice of two 2.0-litre MultiJet 2 diesel engines – with 140bhp or 170bhp power outputs – and the Cherokee range will be expanded to include a 3.2-litre V6 petrol Trailhawk variant later this year.

The new SUV comes in a simplified line-up of Longitude, Longitude+ and Limited specifications. Standard equipment in the well-equipped entry-level Longitude includes body-coloured door mirrors, LED tail lights, 17-inch alloy wheels, dual zone climate control, Bluetooth, DAB radio, leather-wrapped steering wheel and rear park assist.

**"It is up against some tough competition in its sector but Jeep is the original 'Go Anywhere, Do Anything' brand"**

Longitude+ adds a Uconnect media centre with 8.4-inch touch screen, satellite navigation with Bluetooth voice recognition, and nine speakers with Alpine sub-woofer.

A trail-rated Trailhawk version will also be available in late 2014, offering best-in-class off-road capability, with a distinctive look, suspension lift and special off-road equipment including Jeep's Active Drive Lock system, along with a host of other standard equipment.

"Cherokee has always been – and still is – an important car in the Jeep line-up," says Damien Dally, head of brand, Jeep UK.

"It is up against some tough competition in its sector but Jeep is the original 'Go Anywhere, Do Anything' brand, and we are confident that we can offer an attractive package at exceptional prices."

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Fuel consumption figures for Fiat 500 range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 49.6 (5.7) – 64.2 (4.4); Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3) – 91.1 (3.1); Combined 58.9 (4.8) – 76.3 (3.7). $CO_2$ emissions 113 – 90 g/km.
Fuel consumption and $CO_2$ figures based on standard EU tests for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. *Under current DVLA regulations there is no charge for Vehicle Excise Duty in the first year of registration and every subsequent year. Vehicle Excise Duty rates are reviewed annually by the government and are subject to change. # Initial payment of £2,369.09 followed by 59 monthly rentals of £99.00. All rentals include VAT. Contract based on 5,000 miles per annum and does not include maintenance. Excess mileage charges apply at 2.44 pence per mile. You will not own the vehicle and the vehicle must be handed back at the end of the term. Written quotations on request. Subject to status. Vehicle shown for illustration purposes only.

## Budgen Peugeot

# Peugeot 308 worthy winner

**By Sharon Walters**

**It's good to know that just once in a while, the European Car of the Year panel gets things right.** We've had some stinking decisions that have seemed to smack of brown paper bags in service station car parks at night.

The clear winner in 2014 was a car that fully deserved the plaudits. Again it was a Peugeot family hatch, but the numerical closeness is all the underwhelming 307 and the excellent 308 have in common.

We've been getting used to the hatch for a little while now and Peugeot has subsequently fleshed out the 308 line with the car that we run the rule over here, the SW estate. Forget what you thought you knew about small estates. This one comes with a rare injection of desirability.

The petrol engine line up is based around a PureTech 1.2-litre e-THP three-cylinder engine offering either 110 or 130bhp. Go diesel and you're looking at a 1.6-litre turbodiesel.

There's a base version with 92bhp or an e-HDi model with 115bhp and Stop-Start. Next up are the new generation BlueHDi diesels, either a 1.6 with 120bhp or a 2.0-litre unit with 150bhp, the latter offering the option of auto transmission.

There's usually a lot of nonsense spoken by car stylists but the buzzwords around the 308 SW really do ring true. Stretched, slender, fluid and dynamic, it's anything but your usual hatchback with an afterthought of a glasshouse clumsily attached.

Despite that arcing roofline, there's plenty of space in the back. The boot below the parcel shelf is a respectable 660-litres, which includes 70-litres of storage under the floor. You also get so-called Magic Flat rear seats which allow instant folding of both parts of the rear seat using levers accessible on the sides of the boot.

Thanks to the automatic lowering of the rear seat cushions, the result is a flat floor and 1,660-litres of luggage space. Not enough for the extra third row seating that pevious models used to have though. The boot aperture has a width of up to 106cm and a length to the rear seat backs of 107cm. It has vertical side walls with minimal wheel arch intrusion and the load sill is among the lowest of any estate car.

Prices start from around £17,000 and all models include Bluetooth, air conditioning and a DAB radio. You'll need to avoid the entry-level Access model though if you want the 9.7-inch multi-function infotainment touchscreen that makes the 308's interior such an engaging place to be. That's included at Active level, along with alloy wheels and auto headlamps.

The range-topping Allure model gets leather and Alcantara seats, or you can pay a bit more and go for full leather. This features subtle stitching, some impressive fluting and a particularly comfortable shape. The optional electric adjustment includes a variable massage function. The full-length glass roof transforms the feel of the rear seats and is sure to prove a favourite option.

Electric parking brakes haven't found universal favour but the one fitted to the 308 is one of the better examples. It disengages automatically as you pull away and makes the centre console look clean and tidy. The aluminium roof bars are a standard fit item and Peugeot will also sell you accessory and carrying systems for roof boxes and cycle carriers.

No diesel engine in the 308 SW range emits more than 111g/km. Likely to prove popular with buyers is the new BlueHDi 1.6-litre 120bhp diesel which, when linked to a six-speed manual gearbox, records a combined cycle fuel consumption figure of some 88.3mpg and emissions of 85g/km; a record in the segment.

The Peugeot 308 SW is that rarest of things; a compact estate with genuine style. All too often cars in this class are horribly compromised, offer little in the way of genuine practicality over their hatchback siblings and look gawky and ill-proportioned. The 308 SW is sleek and stylish with a reassuring aura of quality both inside and out.

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# Rear-wheel drive thrills

## By Iain Dooley

**The performance-focused 2 Series injects some welcome sparkle into BMW's new compact coupe line-up.**

What's new?: This M235i variant is the quick version of BMW's new 2 Series Coupe. Since a recent naming reshuffle, you're excused for thinking that you're looking at a 1 Series Coupe. Honestly, this is the 'new' 2 Series.

And for buyers seeking proper rear-wheel drive thrills without having to sell a kidney, the M235i is the closest most of us will get to a similar car sporting an 'M' badge.

Yes, an M2 is on the way but, until then, you've got the M235i – likely a more rounded and sensible choice if you've only got space for one performance BMW in your life.

Looks and image: It's not difficult to tell the difference between this M235i and a cooking diesel variant.

The former has clearly been at the box marked Shredded Wheat, what with its beefy bodykit, low and purposeful stance plus those equally businesslike chunky wheels and tyres.

It's a little less in-your-face in the car's cabin, but the sports seats, M car-like steering wheel and subtle graphics ensure you don't forget what this car is capable of. Crucially, for all the talk about genuine M cars, this M-lite version offers a good balance of comfort and sportiness in the real world.

Space and practicality: If there's one thing that the M235i does share with its slower siblings, it's the fac

t that it's a surprisingly practical car for a compact coupe. Granted, space for rear seat occupants is less than great, but it boasts a good size boot and there's ample storage space in the cabin for all the tat associated with leading an active life.

### Embraced

Behind the wheel: From being a maker of rev-happy cars, BMW has fully embraced turbocharging with its latest range of performance motors.

The M235i is no different, and its 3.0-litre straight-six petrol engine benefits from turbocharging to the tune of 322bhp. That figure is plenty to get you to the horizon in a hurry, while the rasping from the exhaust ensures your journey is always entertaining.

Crucially the M235i is a doddle to drive at modest speeds, while pushing harder reveals a car eager to please. Only when you really lean on it, does it show its hand as a hooligan.

That trick BMW approved tuning bits can be bought to further enhance the experience should please the hardcore fans, while you'll also want to pay a little extra for the slick eight-speed auto gearbox as the six-speed manual 'box lacks polish.

Value for money: It's all relative of course, but in the world of premium hot hatches – or coupes – the M235i should be at the top of your shopping list.

It possesses great road manners, is fun and engaging and is docile enough to double as regular transport to the shops and the office.

**'It possesses great road manners, is fun and engaging and is docile enough to double as regular transport'**

Base trim is a little, well, basic, but you'd be wise to spend your cash on the extra tuning bits instead of fancy paint or gadgets.

Who would buy one?: Anyone who's been raised on a diet of hot hatches will like the M235i. It's a mature evolution of the breed yet retains that all-important 'edge' to keep you interested away from the city limits.

Thankfully its low-key looks don't scream performance so you'll rarely turn heads – good news if you want to have some fun but not telegraph it to every man and his dog.

Plus it's rear-wheel rive, which is an important characteristic in a world full of million horsepower front-drive hot hatches.

This car summed up in a single word: thrilling.

If this car was a ... surgical instrument, it would be a scalpel – precise, sharp and to the point.

BMW M235i Coupe, £34,250

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| Annual mileage | 8,000 miles |
| Customer deposit | £600.00 |
| Dealer deposit contribution | £1,409.89 |
| BMW UK deposit contribution | £450.00 |
| Total deposit | £2,459.89 |
| On the road cash price* | £21,930.00 |
| Amount of credit | £19,470.11 |
| Rate of interest (fixed) | 4.90% APR |
| Credit arrangement fee^ | £0.00 |
| Credit completion fee | £0.00 |
| Option to purchase fee** | £10.00 |
| Optional final payment | £8,604.00 |
| Total amount payable | £24,656.89 |
| APR | 4.9% APR |
| Excess mileage charge (per mile) | 5.40 pence |

Official fuel economy figures for the BMW 116i Sport 5-door Sports Hatch: Urban 38.7mpg (7.3l/100km). Extra Urban 60.1mpg (4.7l/100km). Combined 50.4mpg (5.6l/100km). CO2 emissions 131g/km. Figures may vary depending on driving style and condition

Finance examples are for a BMW Select agreement for the selected BMW model(s) as shown above. Applies for new vehicles ordered between 01July 2014 and 30th September 2014 and registered by 20th December 2014, subject to availability. Prices are correct at time of going online (July 2014). Retail customers only. *On the road cash price is based on manufacturers recommended retail price and includes 3 year BMW Dealer Warranty, BMW Emergency Service, 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. **Credit arrangement fee payable with first monthly payment and credit completion fee payable at the end of the agreement. ^Optional final payment and option to purchase fee not payable if you opt to return the vehicle at the end of the agreement (vehicle condition, excess mileage and other charges may be payable). Finance available subject to credit acceptance to UK residents aged 18 or over. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Offer may be varied, withdrawn or extended at any time. BMW Select is a form of hire-purchase agreement provided by BMW Financial Services (GB) Limited, Bartley Way, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9UF. We commonly introduce customers to BMW Financial Services, for which we may receive payment if you enter into an agreement with them. This introduction does not amount to independent financial advice.

| Model | Representative Example: BMW 420d Sport Coupé |
|---|---|
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| Term of agreement | 48 months |
| Annual mileage | 8,000 miles |
| Customer deposit | £3,249.00 |
| Dealer deposit contribution | £1,842.86 |
| BMW UK deposit contribution | £750.00 |
| Total deposit | £5,841.86 |
| On the road cash price* | £33,720.00 |
| Amount of credit | £27,878.14 |
| Rate of interest (fixed) | 4.90% APR |
| Credit arrangement fee^ | £0.00 |
| Credit completion fee | £0.00 |
| Option to purchase fee** | £10.00 |
| Optional final payment | £13,086.18 |
| Total amount payable | £37,691.04 |
| APR | 4.9% APR |
| Excess mileage charge (per mile) | 9.19 pence |

Official fuel economy figures for the BMW 4 Series Coupé range:Urban 24.8–52.3mpg (11.4–5.4l/100km). Extra Urban 45.6–68.9mpg (6.2–4.1l/100km). Combined 34.9–61.4mpg (8.1–4.6l/100km). CO2 emissions 189–121g/km. Figures may vary depending on driving style and condition

Finance examples are for a BMW Select agreement for the selected BMW model(s) as shown above. Applies for new vehicles ordered between 01July 2014 and 30th September 2014 and registered by 20th December 2014, subject to availability. Prices are correct at time of going online (July 2014). Retail customers only. *On the road cash price is based on manufacturers recommended retail price and includes 3 year BMW Dealer Warranty, BMW Emergency Service, 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. **Credit arrangement fee payable with first monthly payment and credit completion fee payable at the end of the agreement. ^Optional final payment and option to purchase fee not payable if you opt to return the vehicle at the end of the agreement (vehicle condition, excess mileage and other charges may be payable). Finance available subject to credit acceptance to UK residents aged 18 or over. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Offer may be varied, withdrawn or extended at any time. BMW Select is a form of hire-purchase agreement provided by BMW Financial Services (GB) Limited, Bartley Way, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9UF. We commonly introduce customers to BMW Financial Services, for which we may receive payment if you enter into an agreement with them. This introduction does not amount to independent financial advice.

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# X marks spot for good value

By Matt Joy

**Residual values will rise while wholelife costs fall on new Nissan X-Trail.**

The new Nissan X-Trail will retain 53 per cent of its value after three years/30,000 miles, a nine per cent increase on the outgoing X-Trail, according to latest data from residual value (RV) setters CAP.

With residual values now in line with the new Qashqai, the RVs place the new X-Trail ahead of key competitors in the crossover/SUV category, making the X-Trail an attractive proposition for fleet managers.

The new £24,795 X-Trail Acenta 2WD five-seater manual now has an RV of 53 per cent or £12,800 after three years.

This means that the new X-Trail is set to retain approximately £2,000 more over its first three years of life compared to its outgoing equivalent, a healthy nine per cent increase.

The increase in residual value has had a positive contribution on the X-Trail's WLCs with the new version now 10 per cent less to run on a pence-per-mile basis when compared with the outgoing model – 99 pence per mile versus 110 pence per mile (outgoing model).

More importantly for Nissan, this makes it one of the segment's best, even when compared with traditional D Segment saloons.

**'New X-Trail has confirmed Nissan's position as the world leader in crossovers'**

Barry Beeston, Nissan GB Corporate Sales Director, commented: "Alongside the recently launched Qashqai, the new X-Trail is a strong prospect for fleet managers looking to reduce their running costs and maximise their investment during the vehicle's lifecycle.

"Not only will owners get more value for their new X-Trail after three years, but the associated benefit is a significant reduction in wholelife costs too – up to 10 per cent better versus its predecessor.

"The new X-Trail is fitted with an impressive list of safety and technology features as standard, while the striking design and the fact that it's been completely redesigned from the ground up means it now caters to a much broader range of customers than before – including those buyers in the traditional D segment.

"As a result of the uplift in RVs for new X-Trail, Nissan's latest crossover is now more economical to own and run and will build on Nissan's reputation for producing stylish, spacious, safe and economical crossover vehicle."

The new X-Trail launches with an advanced dCi 130 turbodiesel powerplant, capable of delivering combined fuel consumption of 57.6mpg while emitting just 129g/km CO2, making it a convincing option for company car drivers.

With features such as forward emergency braking, driver attention alert, traffic sign recognition, lane departure warning, blind spot warning, moving object detection and high beam assist, the new X-Trail has confirmed Nissan's position as the world leader in crossovers.

I The all-new Nissan Qashqai proved it has the pulling power when it was named as The Overall Winner at the prestigious Tow Car Awards 2014.

The British-built model also won the 1,400kg-1,549kg (kerbweight) category.

Judges from the Camping and Caravanning Club and influential magazines Practical Caravan and What Car? tested a record 56 cars, before concluding the Qashqai 1.6 dCi 130PS Acenta Premium, priced from £25,780 RRP, is top of the tows.

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*higher rate mobility allowance is currently £55.25 per week for the PIP, DLA and £61.75 per week for WPMS.

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Buying a brand new Kia car with Motability is easy – over 500,000 customers are already in on the Motability scheme. To find out more, why not get in touch with your local Kia dealer today? In Shropshire contact the Furrows group. You can also visit www.motability.co.uk or call 0800 093 1000 for more information.

# D-Max is ideal workhorse

**By Graham Breeze**

**The Isuzu D-Max is big, brash and extremely bullish but don't expect too much refinement.**

It's a big workhorse that does exactly what it says on the tin with a powerful 2.5litre engine and a massive loading area.

But what you get in one area you lose in another because there are no trimmings so don't expect a life of luxury behind the wheel.

On test was the D-Max 2.5D with a two-seater cab with an all steel body mounted on a steel ladder-frame chasis. The longitudinally mounted engine drives rear or all four wheels on demand via a part-time 4WD system and a six speed manual box.

It's a very effective system and the perfect vehicle for farm or work site, delivering pretty effective performance and offering a huge load area.

The downside is an uncomfortable ride, particularly off-road and I would have to say that some rivals would claim an easier passage.

It would be unfair to criticise too much because I didn't get the opportunity to drive the vehicle laden, but with nothing in the back the Isuzu needs careful handling.

The 2.5litre 163ps turbo diesel engine can charge to a top speed of 112mph which means it does tend to bounce around a bit when you have your foot on the pedal.

The four door option would be my own preference but you buy the two door version with work in mind so it fits the bill perfectly.

It's a big vehicle to park too, although the power assisted steering is light enough there's a huge turning circle of 12.2 metres.

Finding a comfortable driving position is not easy with little steering wheel adjustment while the cabin is fitted with sturdy material to cope with any conditions. Don't expect too many gadgets either, the D-Max isn't aimed at anyone wanting to play.

But outwardly the D-Max looks the part, setting an imposing stance on 16" wheels with 245/70R 16 tyres.

The D-Max is cheaper than many rivals and its 2.5-litre engine is relatively efficient, so it will be cheap to run and the VAT advantages for business users who run a pick-up are not to be sneezed at.

Fuel economy is good with 38.2mpg on the combined cycle but driving the D-Max means you are not helping the plant much with CO2 emissions of 194g/km.

The model on test hit the road at £16,999 but metallic paint, over-rails and carpet mats took the price to £17,718. Yes you have to pay for carpet mats.

If it's a workhorse you need look no further.


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| 2009 59 | **CITROEN C4 VTR+ HDi 5-door.** Red, 60,200 miles | £5,799 |
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| 2002 56 | **NISSAN MICRA 1.2 ACTIVE** 3-door. Metallic Red, 51,000 miles, FSH | £3,299 |
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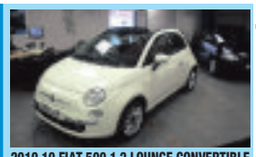

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Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 10, 2014

Store water in a butt to cut down on using it from the tap

To keep plants looking this good invest in seep hoses to regulate water

# TIPS TO SAVE WATER

**by Hannah Stephenson**

**WE may have had the warmest spring on record, but last winter was also the wettest, so we are a long way from a drought and hosepipe ban.**

However, with experts predicting the dry weather is here to stay, gardeners will be working out ways to save water.

The Royal Horticultural Society offers the following seven tips to gardeners who want to put the water where it's most needed:

1. Established trees and shrubs do not generally need watering as they have such wide-ranging roots that they are drought-proof. However, their growth may be improved by watering when they are under drought stress

2. Trees and shrubs planted less than five years ago have increased water requirements and may suffer drought stress without watering

3. Newly sown or newly planted areas are very vulnerable to water stress, so watering these should be a high priority

4. Herbaceous perennials often need watering to boost their performance in hot, dry spells. Plant choice is crucial if you want to achieve a drought-proof border. Drought resistant plants include cordyline, hebe, lavender, Verbena bonariensis, eryngium, euphorbia, diascia, cosmos, gazania, nemesia and, of course, pelargoniums. Many drought-tolerant plants have silver or grey-green leaves, their light leaf colour reflecting the harsh rays of the sun.

5. The yields and quality of vegetables and fruit are greatly improved by watering at times when drought stress would affect the part of the plant that is gathered. Leafy crops such as lettuce and spinach should never be short of water. Onions require little or no watering. Most other crops need watering at sowing and transplanting time, and then again as the fruits, roots or tubers are developing. It is also a good idea to give a single, thorough watering about two weeks before harvest

6. Lawns require great quantities of water for thorough irrigation, but instead of watering in dry periods, mow less closely and less frequently. Brown patches usually recover when the autumn rains return.

7. Mulching with a layer of organic matter or gravel at least 5cm (2in) thick reduces moisture loss from the upper layers of the soil.

## Collected

Less than three per cent of the annual water consumption of an average household is estimated to be from garden use, but at peak times as much as 70 per cent of water supplied may be used in gardens.

Even in dry districts, 24,000 litres (5,280 gallons or 150 water butts) could be collected from the roof each year, says the RHS.

Sean Laverick of the Homebase Garden Academy advises waterwise gardeners to store their water in water butts and invest in a water butt pump which enables you to use your hose with a water butt.

"Most garden watering should be aimed specifically at the stem bases beneath the foliage canopy, leaving the surrounding soil dry," he says.

"This helps to limit weed problems and ensures all the water goes where it is needed."

If you are short of time, invest in seep hoses, which have holes in them to deliver water accurately to established plants and plants in rows.

They can be hidden beneath soil or mulch, which also avoids evaporation losses and work best on heavy soil where the water spreads further sideways as it sinks than on lighter soils.

Automated irrigation systems are another option to save time and labour. They feature drip or trickle irrigation systems and some are remotely operated through sensors which can monitor when your soil needs watering.

Mix water storing gel in with the compost in your container plants, to save and store a lot of the water you normally use, the gel slowly releasing water to the roots.

Keep your soil as wet as possible - mulch on the ground surface prevents evaporation from the soil, providing increased moisture retention. Some lawnmowers now have mulching plugs that return fine grass cuttings back on to the lawn's surface.

Finally, says Sean, don't panic: "Long-term weather predictions should still see summer rain which will allow plants to thrive over the summer, so just make sure you're making the most of the rain that comes your way."

For more information, visit **www.rhs.org.uk**

Concentrate on watering the roots of plants to cut down on weed growth

Keep your soil as wet as possible – mulch helps prevents evaporation

Pretty Diascia flowers look good in a basket, trough or rockery but plants are not fully hardy

Thin heavy crops of plums to ensure that branches do not break

### BEST OF THE BUNCH – DIASCIA

Their delicate flowers in subtle shades from pale pink to apricot, coral and salmon look beautiful in baskets and troughs, or in rockeries where they should flourish in summer.

Diascias, which generally grow to little more than 25cm, aren't fully hardy so are often grown as annuals, although they can survive mild winters if you protect them.

They prefer warm conditions in full sun and don't need masses of water.

Avoid placing the pot on a saucer as they hate to have their feet wet and will benefit from good drainage.

Great varieties include D. 'Little Tango', which provides a wealth of zingy deep orange/red flowers, D Flying Colours Appleblossom, which produces pretty soft pink flowers, and D. 'Coral Belle', which flowers brilliantly in mixed baskets and will trail.

If bad weather makes them look straggly, give them a quick trim with shears, feed them and they should start to flower again.

### GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT – PLUMS

If you want a great crop of plums this year, you need to thin heavy crops now to stop the branches breaking.

Some of the smaller fruits should also fall naturally around now to thin the crop.

You may need to thin the crop again later in July if it looks like branches are not going to withstand the weight of the fruit.

This is an especially useful method for Victoria plums, which often carry bumper crops one year and virtually nothing the next.

To further protect the crop, you can put up pheromone traps to guard against codling moth.

### WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

Summer-prune wall-trained plums and cherries, with the exception of Morello. Sideshoots which made growth in the last two months can be shorted back by a third at this time of year.

Give shade to newly planted crops such as brassicas, which will benefit if shaded from hot sun until they establish.

Where roots are exposed due to watering, apply a top dressing of compost to tomatoes.

Plant autumn-flowering bulbs such as amaryllis, nerines, colchicums and autumn crocuses.

Feed long-flowering and late-flowering border perennials.

Collect and sow or store ripe seeds before they fall.

When water is scarce, give priority to soft fruits and vegetables, where watering can increase your yield substantially.

Wipe aphids off leaves by hand.

Pick fresh herbs regularly to dry or freeze in ice-cube trays.

Take cuttings from roses, many of which grow easily from shoot cuttings.

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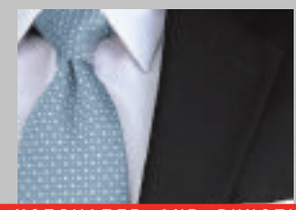

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## NEWS in brief

### Electrical firm has a large reputation

AN electrical firm on the Powys/Shropshire border has gained an excellent reputation.

Middletown based Paddock Electrical has built an excellent reputation for quality workmanship within the domestic, industrial and commercial sectors. The firm recently improved its Middletown headquarters and claims to provide a hassle-free professional service.

"Over the years we have formed some excellent relationships with clients who use us time and time again," said a spokesman.

"We are looking to form lasting relationships with new clients."

### Painting to mark force anniversary

A PAINTING charting the history of Dyfed-Powys Police is being created to mark the force's 40th anniversary.

Blue Lamp Prints and the Dyfed-Powys Police Museum have teamed up to produce the timeline painting which will show different uniforms and vehicles from over the years.

The painting will be presented on July 25 at the force headquarters in Llangunnor, Carmarthenshire.

Any Dyfed-Powys Police pensioners who would like to attend the unveiling should call (01267) 226304.

# Retired auctioneer named as new show president

**by Graham Breeze**

**RETIRED livestock auctioneer and chartered surveyor John Jones is the new president of Oswestry Show**

Mr Jones, who lives at Guilsfield, has attended the show for many years firstly as a child with his parents.

He returned in 1971 following after college and work commitments in the South of England when he took up employment with Norman Lloyd & Co who were heavily involved as secretaries to the Show until 1983.

He has also been a past commentator of the horse parade and with his wife Carol, who he met at the Show in 1971, has exhibited ponies and sheep on numerous occasions.

Mr Jones was a partner in Norman Lloyd & Co, Oswestry Cattle Auctions and Welshpool Livestock Sales from 1973 until his retirement in 2009.

He was honoured in 2012 by The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, being awarded the Sir Bryner Jones award for his services to agriculture.

On taking the chair at the annual meeting he thanked the Oswestry & District Agricultural Society for electing him as president and said how much he was looking forward to the forthcoming year.

Chairman Malcolm Roberts with president John Jones

The Imps Motorcycling Team will be providing main ring entertainment

In keeping with its traditional agricultural links there will be the usual classes for cattle, sheep, goats and rare breeds, judging takes place throughout the day in the many rings at this year's show.

This year the show has been invited to hold a qualifying round for the 2014 Welsh Lamb Shearing Circuit and classes will be held for junior , intermediate, senior and open British competitors.

Visitors to this year's show can enjoy browsing around the many trade stands, food hall and the craft marquee.

A floral spectacular can be found in the horticultural marquee, along with amazing creations produced by the junior members in the children's classes.

The Imps Motorcycling Stunt Team will be providing main ring entertainment.

# Pegasus sculpture proving a big hit

A LARGE scale sculpture from the Continent has arrived at The Sculpture Park at The British Ironworks in Oswestry.

The spectacular work depicting Perseus and his winged horse, Pegasus, after the slaying of Medusa, has received huge attention since its arrival from Germany.

The centre has obtained cover to the value of £50,000 for Perseus after taking specialist advice suggesting that specific insurance for their high-value exhibits is needed.

Clive Knowles, chairman of the British Ironwork Centre, said: "We've been thrilled by the response to the piece which is based upon one of the most famous tales in Greek mythology – the slaying of the Gorgon Medusa, who turned to stone all those who dared to look at her.

"The quality of the piece is stunning and it appeals to visitors young and old alike.

"It illustrates a story that has been retold countless times world-wide throughout the centuries. It has huge educational value in addition to it its aesthetic appeal.

"It will enable visiting schools to discuss and learn more about Greek myths."


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# Why did only few support an event?

THIS month I was fortunate to meet the chairman of Fusion Arts Oswestry, Jay Moore -an enthusiastic and creative lead for the community interest company operating from The Centre on Oak Street.

Jay told me about a recent showcase and fundraising event to which over 60 local businesses had been invited. Jay's vision is to engage with the business community to bridge the gap between up and coming talent and local employers.

This event was intended to break down the barrier between the two community groups.

I was saddened to hear that only two businesses accepted the invitation to attend and as a result many youngsters were left disappointed and demotivated having worked so hard to pull together a showcase event.

I would urge businesses to get involved, offer support and reap the rewards of working with the workforce of the future.

You can find out more about Fusion Arts by visiting their website www.fusionartsoswestry.co.uk or by calling 01691 677170.

**HEATHER NOBLE**
**Chairman**
**Oswestry Chamber Of Commerce**

# Equality group vows to keep up town campaign

**LEADERS of a group set up a year ago to address inequality in Oswestry have vowed to continue highlighting the issue in which ever form it takes.**

The Oswestry Equality Group was established in July last year to campaign for a more equal society.

The group has held a series of public meetings to examine various issues and says it will continue to campaign for a fairer society.

**by Iain St John**

Penny Rice from the group said each public meeting has taken a lot of time, energy and organisation.

The group's first meeting was held in September when the proposed closure and relocation of both the Avalon and Lorne Street Day Centres in Oswestry was explored.

Mrs Rice said: "In October we showed the film 'Ghosts'.

"This was a harrowing account of the background to the Morecambe Bay Cockle pickers' disaster of 2004, when 23 illegal Chinese workers drowned.

""In November we investigated welfare reform and the 'bedroom tax'.

" An informative evening was held when we discovered what Shropshire Council is trying to do to alleviate the hardships brought about locally by these reforms.

"A visit by students from Derwen College challenged our perceptions of disability in January"

In May the subject of a meeting was "Inequality in Shropshire"

Mrs Rice said: "There were a lot of facts, but unfortunately very few answers to the problems we face over here in the far west corner of the county."

The campaigner said plans were already being made for future public meetings to explore other equality issues.

She said: "I have learnt that it is extremely hard work, that there are people out there who really appreciate what we are trying to do and that it is really worth while.

"We would love to see more young people at our meetings and getting involved.

## Park spin-a-thon helps the hospice

Bodytech Health Clubs brought a spinning event to Cae Glas Park in Oswestry on Saturday

BODYTECH Health Clubs brought their highly popular Spin-a-thon to Oswestry for the first time on Saturday

Members of Bodytech Health Clubs participated in a mass four-hour spin class in Oswestry's Cae Glas Park to raise money for Severn Hospice.

The 35 riders – who hailed from Oswestry, Market Drayton, Whitchurch and Shrewsbury – were put through their paces by four instructors, completing a variety of gruelling exercises on the bikes, while cycling, between them, roughly the distance stretching between London and New York.

Jeff Anderson, managing director of Bodytech Health Clubs said: "Our Spin-a-thons are becoming more and more popular each year. This is the second we have held in under a month and the number of participant's we have been able to attract has been fantastic, especially as it is for such a good cause."

If you would like further information about spinning or Bodytech's future Spin-a-thon's please call the club on (01691) 657400.

## NEWS in brief

### Beauticians win national awards

STAFF at a Welshpool beauty salon have been celebrating after winning two major industry awards.

Figure & Face was named Pevonia Salon of the Year and its therapist Christabel Davies was named Pevonia Therapist of the Year.

Hundreds of salons from across the UK were in the running for the title which is eligible to clients of the Pevonia brand, and Figure & Face's bid was backed by supporting comments from 235 customers.

The company is in the running for another award after being named as a finalist in the Welsh Hair and Beauty Awards.

### Meat sales rise internationally

INTERNATIONAL sales of lamb and beef were worth more than £224 million to the economy of Wales last year, according to new figures.

Exports of PGI Welsh Lamb products were worth £154.7 million in 2013 – up by £7 million on the previous year – while overseas sales of PGI Welsh Beef stood at £69.4 million, the same as in 2012.

"These figures show that consumers across the world love Welsh lamb and Welsh beef," said Laura Pickup, market development manager with Meat Promotion Wales.

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## NEWS in brief

### Ride to preserve county churches

THE Shropshire Historic Churches Trust is urging people to "Ride and Stride" to help raise funds to conserve and repair the county's interesting and ancient churches and chapels.

The sponsored "Ride and Stride" on September 13 sees people walking or cycling between Shropshire churches, many of which will be open, offering refreshments and a well earned rest.

Richard Bifield of the Trust said: "Ride and Stride is a national event for county Historic Churches Trusts. Last year Shropshire raised almost £25,000."

### Road blocked in town crash

A MAIN road through Oswestry was partially blocked during rush hours following a crash on Tuesday morning.

There were delays on the A483 between the Mile End roundabout and the B5069 Morda turn off.

The collision caused rush hour delays for motorists on the route, which goes past the Maesbury Road Industrial Estate.

It was not known how many vehicles were involved in the accident but tailbacks built along Maesbury Road as well as on the bypass in both directions.

# Reader seeking help to track down local roots

**by Toby Neal**

**THEY are faces from the distant past who are causing some headscratching for a family historian of the present.**

And Derek Downs of Cornwall is now turning to readers in the hope that they can help solve the riddle.

"I am hoping that one of your readers may recognise them," said Derek. That is not because he doesn't know who they are, but because he is hoping that it will unlock the door to knowing more about his family's Shropshire roots.

### Spelling

"The photographs are of my grandfather George Downs and great-grandmother Amelia Downes."

Let's stop things there for a moment to explain the difference in spellings.

"My family dropped the 'e' in our name when my grandfather moved to London," said Derek.

"My grandfather was the middle son of Alfred and Amelia Downes. They also had two other sons, Frederick Manwaring Downes and Joseph Downes. My great-grandfather Alfred Downes was born to Harriett Davies and was subsequently adopted by Joseph and Sarah Downes of Whittington, Shropshire, in 1850.

Amelia Downes, he name carried the letter "e"

"We do not know who his father was. My grandfather left Shropshire in 1892 with his eldest brother Frederick Manwaring for London.

"I also know that the youngest son, Joseph, eventually moved and settled in Manchester where Alfred joined him. Both father and son are buried in Manchester South Cemetery.

"Are there any of the Downes family still living in the area?"

Derek has appealed for anyone who can help to get in touch with him at DerekWDowns@hotmail.com or on 01288 331707.

His postal address is West View House, Woolley, Morwenstow, Cornwall, EX23 9PS.

George Downs - the family name lost its "e".

# County's shortage of organ donors

A SHORTAGE of organ donors in Shropshire led to 15 deaths in the last five years, according to figures released this week.

And there are currently 69 people in Shropshire waiting for a transplant.

NHS Blood and Transplant is highlighting the figures to encourage people to spell out their decision on organ donation during National Transplant Week, which began on Monday and runs until Sunday.

The aim of this year's campaign is to highlight the fact the decision to donate a loved one's organs can often fall to the family.

NHS Blood and Transplant is asking people to spell out their decision to donate by joining the NHS Organ Donor Register and by having a conversation with their family.

Sally Johnson, Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation for NHS Blood and Transplant said: "Last year 19 people living in Shropshire benefited from a life-saving organ transplant thanks to families making the decision to donate when a loved one died, a decision that we know makes them incredibly proud.

During National Transplant Week events are taking place across the country.

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 10, 2014

A bespoke shelving unit at the home of blogger Victoria Smith

The living room at Karine Candice Kong's home

# THE STYLE BLOGGERS

**by Gabrielle Fagan**

**YOU'RE truly pure of heart if you've never wanted to snoop around other people's homes, lingered on the street to peep into a lighted room, or viewed a house, with no intention of buying – just to satisfy your curiosity about what it's like inside.**

Go on, admit it, you're into property porn. Thankfully, the easiest, guilt-free way to deal with a decor addiction is to browse online home design blogs, which can open the doors to homes throughout the world, as well as being inspiring, entertaining, and informative.

"Online, there are no limitations, no boundaries, you don't need a passport, a visa or a plane ticket, just sit back and log on – a whole world of inspiring interiors awaits your arrival," says Ellie Tennant, who's travelled the world visiting 15 design bloggers and their homes for her book, Design Bloggers At Home.

"The world of interiors and design blogging is a close-knit, friendly community of passionate enthusiasts, who love sharing what they love and can give you an undiluted dose of style, as well as an intriguing glimpse into their lives and what makes them tick. Frankly, what's not to like?"

Two of my favourites are designer Abigail Ahern's, which highlights trends and tricks of the trade and features shots of her rich, dramatic decor, and Apartment Therapy, which is informative and illustrated with stunning photographs. Beginners – be warned, just like dipping into a box of chocolates and finding you've scoffed the lot, you can find that blogs are a major distraction and you can't get enough of all those yummy rooms.

While it's fun to check out bloggers who have a similar taste to your own, it can be inspiring looking at the online scrapbooks of others who follow their own stylish path. Try these for starters...

**SCANDI ROCKS**

**THE BLOG:** myscandinavianhome.blogspot.co.uk

Inspiring images of light-filled, uncluttered rooms in beautifully styled homes fill the blog of Niki Brantmark, an English marketing manager and mother-of-three living in Malmo, Sweden. A fresh and simple take on Scandi style is offered in a delightfully presented blog, and she gives her followers an opportunity to admire converted barns, beachside villas, and to explore trendy getaways and fabulous architecture.

**HER HOME:** Spacious and sociable open-plan living areas have been cleverly zoned using lighting and furniture, ample storage ensures it's calm and uncluttered, and it's living proof that you can have a child-friendly home without sacrificing on style.

"Originally, our house had green ceilings and red skirting boards," shudders Niki, as she recalls the home they moved into five years ago. "It was horrific but the windows were massive and we loved the location, so we just painted everything white to give it an airy Scandinavian look."

The living area features vintage teak furniture, monochrome accessories and a hide rug. "I love textures so I throw sheepskins over chairs, put rugs on the floor and scatter cushions, pillows and blankets everywhere."

**FRENCH CHIC**

**THE BLOG:** blog.bodieandfou.com

Karine Candice Kong, a French expat living in London, owns stylish online boutique Bodie And Fou. On the award-winning blog, she shares her life, pictures of her home (here and in France) and creative inspirations. Most usefully, she also opens up her little black book of places to shop and visit.

"I started the blog originally to promote the shop, but it quickly became about much more than just my business," says Karine. "It's almost like a diary to me. It's very personal, and is a way for me to share my passion for interior decoration online."

**HER HOME:** A spacious four-bedroom Victorian house which she shares with her husband and daughter Mila. It is predominantly decorated in neutrals, with warm, natural materials such as leather, marble and wood preventing the rooms from feeling too stark or cold.

"I always find beauty in natural objects. I pick up bits of wood at the beach and bring them home to display them. I like shells too. My look is pared back and edited so each room has a story behind it," she says.

"I've always wanted to create a home that has a laid-back holiday feel, so colours like turquoise feature, to remind me of blue skies and seas. I don't think you need much stuff, just simple furniture. We have made a bed base out of wooden pallets, and have a crate as a bedside table."

**CORNISH CHARM**

**THE BLOG:** futurusticblog.com

Design writer Rebecca Proctor marries her love of cutting-edge design with her penchant for a more traditional, rustic approach to home-making. It's presented in a refreshingly clear style that makes it easy to browse and is interspersed with stunning art, photos and homes she loves, as well as her own in Cornwall and her two small children.

"Living in a remote, rural area can mean sometimes I feel a little isolated, but the upside of blogging is that it's made me feel much more connected to the rest of the country and the whole world," says Rebecca. "I'm part of an online design community, which keeps me in the loop, despite my location."

**HER HOME:** Two 18th century cottages minutes from the coast which she and her partner, illustrator Andrew, have lovingly renovated. "When we moved in, they were divided into lots of small, cramped rooms but we've knocked down walls, made them into one, and now the house is flooded with light," she says.

Flagstone flooring, exposed brickwork and inglenook fireplaces have all been retained, but wood burning stoves and a new kitchen have been incorporated to bring the home into the 21st century. "I love recycling and would rather make things for our home than buy them. I've used pages from old books and magazines for wallpaper in some rooms, and sourced replica Bakelite light switches to enhance a vintage atmosphere."

**DESIGN COCKTAIL**

**THE BLOG:** sfgirlbybay.com

There's a chilled, West Coast feel to Victoria Smith's blog, featuring images of envy-inducing white sand beaches and must-see places in San Francisco. Unusually, the former art buyer and print producer is a full-time blogger and so lavishes an enormous amount of care and attention to her site and posts – and it shows. "If I go to a gallery or out shopping with a friend, I'm always thinking, 'This could be a good blog post'," she says with a smile. "I constantly scour websites for new ideas and my look changes all the time.."

**HER HOME:** A modest one-bedroom flat transformed by a collection of flea market finds, blended with cutting-edge contemporary designs, into a comfortable but ultra stylish interior. She sums up her style as "a mishmash of old and new" and sources bargains online and at markets.

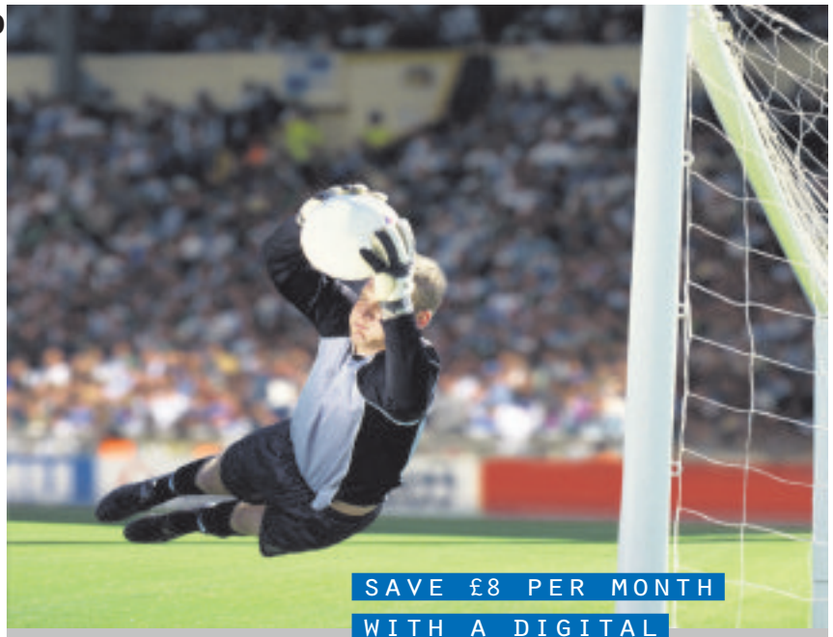
:: Design Bloggers at Home by Ellie Tennant, published by Ryland Peters & Small, £19.99, is available to readers for £13.99 (inc p&p). Call Macmillan Direct on 01256 302 699 quoting reference GLR 9NF.

Niki Brantmark's home featured in Design Bloggers At Home, by Ellie Tennant

An ornamental stag's head adds colour at Niki Brantmark's home

Karine Candice Kong's kitchen at her London home

The dining room at Victoria Smith's home



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Shropshire STAR

GIG GUIDE

# Weekend of live music on stage at Workhouse

**GET ready for one big weekend of music as the Llanfyllin music and art festival, Workhouse 2014 kicks off on Friday.**

Held at Llanfyllin Workhouse, the family friendly event runs from Friday to Monday, featuring a slew of great band and DJ's.

You can head over to the outdoor stage for performances by Fight the Bear, Soul Preachers, Tom Hingley, Ash Mandrake, Shifty Chicken Shed as well as many more.

Meanwhile inside there will be an amazing sound system with sets from the hottest local DJs.

It's not just great music that you can look forward to as there will also be plenty of different arts and crafts workshops to check out, as well as cabaret and other entertainment.

Tickets for the event are priced at £35 for the weekend, or £20 for a youth ticket.

Don't be surprised if you mistake Welshpool for somewhere in the Mediterranean this Friday, as Latin music trio Synergy will be performing at The Royal Oak.

Formed in 2009, the band is made up of guitarists Juan Casals Mendoza and Glenn Philips, and bass player Juan Manzanera.

**Synergy will be on stage at Royal Oak in Welshpool**

Coming from both classical and modern music backgrounds, the members prides themselves on their flexibility, playing a diverse set of lively Mediterranean music, flamenco pieces and Classical favourites.

The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry.

Reggae in the Park is back by popular demand on Sunday, giving you the opportunity relax and enjoy some great music in the open air.

A big success the first time round, Reggae in the Park features local DJs playing everything from reggae and dancehall to drum 'n bass and jungle.

Held in Cae Glas Park the event is part of Oswestry Town Council's summer calendar of free music. It kicks off at midday and runs until 5pm.

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# BRAIN TRAINING

Test your mental agility. Target times, in minutes, are in the little clocks

## 9-er

(3)

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all 9 letters.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | |

THE CLUES

**721581** is a British painter;
**747465** is an Italian painter;
**3674998** is a French painter.

**Your time:**

## X is to Y

(2)

1. Koechel is to Mozart as Lesure is to ? CHABRIER, DEBUSSY, OFFENBACH, POULENC, RAVEL

2. Apocalypse Now is to Vietnam as Jarhead is to ? AFGHANISTAN, IRAN, IRAQ, KOREA, KUWAIT

3. Joseph Kagan is to Gannex as Joseph Shivers is to ? KEVLAR, LYCRA, NYLON, SPANDEX, TEFLON

**Your time:**

## Mindbender

(4)

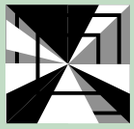
Jean paid for a round of drinks to celebrate her birthday with a £50 note. If the round had cost £10 more, she would have received a third as much change. How much did she spend?

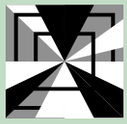
**Your time:**

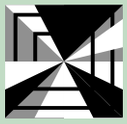
## Mirror Image

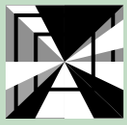
(2)

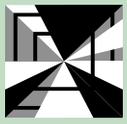
Which of the four shapes below is an exact mirror image of the shape on the right?



A 

B 

C 

D 

**Your time:**

## Split Decision

(3)

Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L/P | J/R | S/O | O/Z | L/F |
| I/Y | | L/P | | O/E |
| C/R | I/H | L/I | E/N | A/D |
| E/K | | V/I | | S/G |
| Y/S | G/H | E/T | D/E | T/E |

**Your time:**

# IMPOSSIPUZZLES

1. Greg put down his pen. 'I've been working on the number of your house,' he said. 'It's rather special you know.'
'Come on. You and your figures!' Fred chuckled. 'An ordinary 3-digit number, surely?'
'Yes, but what about this?' replied Greg. 'It has just two prime factors, different but each with two digits. And each factor is one away from a power of some particular third prime number.'
**Well?**

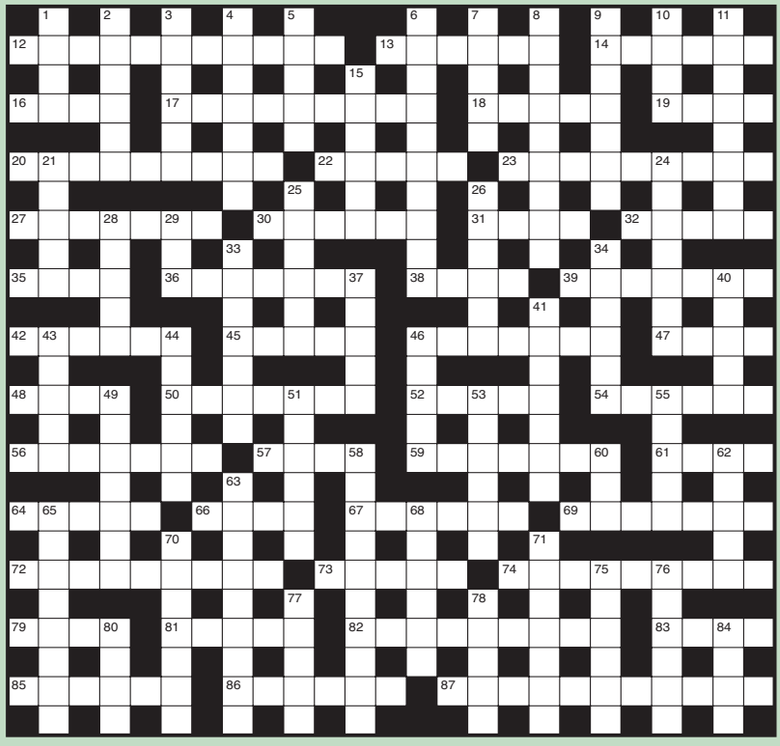
2. 'They're enormous,' said Ann, tipping out the grapefruit onto the table. 'But is that all you got for £3?' Her husband smiled. 'Cheap for that size, and they were priced singly. There were smaller ones at five pence each less, but they didn't seem such good value.'
'But two more for the money,' Ann commented. 'You may be right though.'
**How many had be bought?**

3. 'I'll have the print anyway,' said Greg. 'And one of these two frames. What's the difference?'
Sam looked at his list. 'With the gilt frame the total is £32.57,' he replied. 'But the black frame is only two-thirds the price of gilt, so with that it would come to £29.44.'
**What was the price of the print?**

# SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 4 | | | 2 | | 1 | | |
| 9 | | | 3 | 4 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | 6 | | 9 |
| | 9 | | 8 | | 5 | | 6 | |
| 8 | 3 | | | | | | 7 | 2 |
| | 6 | | 7 | | 2 | | 1 | |
| 3 | | 4 | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | 7 | 3 | | | 4 |
| | | 2 | | 6 | | | 9 | 1 |

# CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

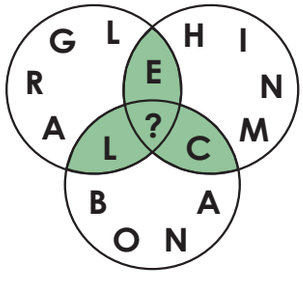
12 In prison (7,4)
13 Fish (6)
14 Too (2,4)
16 To-do (4)
17 Carelessly (3,3,3)
18 Bag (5)
19 Depressed (4)
20 Stopping (9)
22 Rocks (5)
23 Colour (4-5)
27 Boat (7)
30 Coop (6)
31 Parcels (4)
32 Split (5)
35 Lease (4)
36 Posy (7)
38 Affectionate (4)
39 Friendly (7)
42 Offer (6)
45 Board (3,2)
46 Becoming (7)
47 Undiluted (4)
48 Young animal (4)
50 Means (7)
52 Entitlement (5)
54 Mutiny (6)
56 Shrinks (7)
57 Catch (4)
59 Decline (4,3)
61 Hurry (4)
64 Non-verse (5)
66 Spurs on (4)
67 Cling (6)
69 Prevented (7)
72 Fan (9)
73 Set (5)
74 Cruel (9)
79 Be apt (4)
81 Jiffy (5)
82 Creation (9)
83 Awful (4)
85 Endeavour (6)
86 Girl (6)
87 Hardly any (8,3)

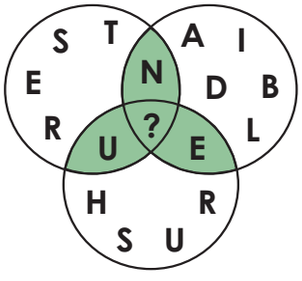
**DOWN**

1 Sensed (4)
2 Opposed (6)
3 Child (6)
4 Supporting (7)
5 Stroll (5)
6 Detailed (4,2,4)
7 Because (5)
8 Air (9)
9 Teller (7)
10 Fearful (4)
11 Perfect (8)
15 Rain (6)
21 Lift (5)
24 Attack (5,2)
25 Vigorous (6)
26 Wine (6)
28 Famous (5)
29 Nut (3)
33 Fool (7)
34 Resident (6)
37 Airs (5)
40 Over (5)
41 Lie (7)
43 Obliterate (5)
44 Enigma (6)
46 Wounded (5)
49 Enlarges (5,2)
51 Bird (6)
53 Fashionable (6)
55 Fragment (5)
58 Stopped (6,2,2)
60 Well (3)
62 Measures (5)
63 Pleasant (9)
65 Gambling game (8)
68 Vegetable (6)
70 Introduce (7)
71 Beguile (7)
75 Gorge (6)
76 Generous (6)
77 Stop (5)
78 Say derisively (5)
80 Defunct (4)
84 Deceived (4)

# CIRCLEGRAM

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be rearranged to form words with a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?




# ALPHAMUDDLE

Rearrange the letters to make 5 words that read both across and down. 5 letters have been placed to start you off.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | T | E | M | S |
| T | E | A | R | I |
| V | I | D | O | L |
| N | O | R | S | A |
| L | A | M | P | S |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | S | | |
| | | | E | |
| | L | | | |
| | | | | O |
| A | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

# SOLUTIONS

**Brain Training**
**9-er**
9-letter word: RUMINATES. Turner, Titian, Matisse.
**X is to Y**
1. Debussy, 2. Kuwait, 3. Spandex.
**Mindbender**
Jean spent thirty five pounds.
**Mirror Image**
D is the mirror image.
**Split Decision >**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | R | O | O | F |
| I | | L | | E |
| G | H | I | N | A |
| K | | V | | S |
| S | H | E | E | T |

**Crossword**
ACROSS: 12 Serving time. 13 Plaice. 14 As well. 16 Stir. 17 Any old how. 18 Catch. 19 Down. 20 Arresting. 22 Sways. 23 Blue-green. 27 Pinnace. 30 Corral. 31 Lots. 32 Burst. 35 Rent. 36 Bouquet. 38 Warm. 39 Cordial. 42 Tender. 45 Get on. 46 Getting. 47 Neat. 48 Lamb. 50 Denotes. 52 Right. 54 Rising. 56 Recoils. 57 Trap. 59 Drop off. 61 Rush. 64 Prose. 66 Eggs. 67 Cleave. 69 Stopped. 72 Supporter. 73 Ready. 74 Merciless. 79 Tend. 81 Shake. 82 Invention. 83 Vile. 85 Strain. 86 Lassie. 87 Precious few.
DOWN: 1 Felt. 2 Averse. 3 Infant. 4 Staying. 5 Amble. 6 Blow by blow. 7 Since. 8 Ventilate. 9 Cashier. 10 Awed. 11 Flawless. 15 Shower. 21 Raise. 24 Round on. 25 Robust. 26 Claret. 28 Noted. 29 Cob. 33 Muggins. 34 Lodger. 37 Tunes. 40 Again. 41 Fiction. 43 Erase. 44 Riddle. 46 Gored. 49 Blows up. 51 Thrush. 53 Groovy. 55 Scrap. 58 Packed it in. 60 Fit. 62 Steps. 63 Agreeable. 65 Roulette. 68 Endive. 70 Present. 71 Bewitch. 75 Canyon. 76 Lavish. 77 Cease. 78 Snort. 80 Dead. 84 Led.

**Impossipuzzles**
1. House number 527, factors 17 and 31.; 2. 10 grapefruits at 30 pence each.; 3. Price of the print was £23.18.
**Circlegram**
A: The letter represented by the question mark is Y. Gallery, chimney, balcony, all architectural features.
B: The letter represented by the question mark is M. Sternum, mandible, humerus, all bones.
**Alphamuddle**
Vista, Idler, Slams, Tempo, Arson.

**Sudoku**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 7 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 |
| 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| 8 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 1 |

# SATURDAY

### The National Lottery: Break the Safe

*7.40pm*

Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs of contestants – West Midlands sisters-in-law, sign-language interpreters from Yorkshire and a Luton father and daughter – compete for the chance to play for the money in the safe.

### Live Golf: The Women's British Open

*1pm*

Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the third day, as the tournament won last year by American Stacy Lewis continues. The weather on day three in 2013 played havoc, as the leaders failed to even make it out on to the course due to high winds.

### Peter Andre's 60 Minute Makeover

*1.30pm*

The Australian TV personality joins forces with interior design expert Julia Kendell in Southampton to give a surprise French-style makeover to mother and foster parent Elaine Adams's lounge and bedroom. But can the team complete the room's in time?

### Grand Designs

*8pm*

Kevin McCloud meets artists Indi and Rebecca, who are planning to construct a modern, larch-clad home on the Isle of Skye, with a second hand-crafted building alongside to use as their studio. They have been saving for years, but making it happen will mean taking on the savage weather.

### The Trial of Gillian Taylforth

*10pm*

In January 1994, actress Gillian Taylforth nt victims after a story reported she had been observed by police performing a sex act on Knights in their car in a lay-by on the A1. This programme is a dramatic reconstruction of the trial based on court transcripts and media coverage.

## BBC1

**6.00** **Breakfast.**
**10.00** **Saturday Kitchen Live.** James Martin is joined in the studio by chefs Tony Singh and Cyrus Todiwala. Singer and actress Samantha Barks faces either food heaven or food hell.
**11.30** **Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds.** The baker creates a Thai chicken pie with ingredients from Yorkshire, a pumpkin and ginger cheesecake from Kent and Turkish delight. (R)
**12.00** **Homes Under the Hammer.** Developers Lucy Alexander and Martin Roberts explore a flat in Cornwall, a house in Co Durham and a property in Chiswick, west London. (R)
**1.00** **BBC News;** Weather.
**1.15** **Bargain Hunt.** James Braxton and Thomas Plant join two teams at the Hemswell Antiques Centre in Lincolnshire, while Tim Wonnacott visits Hinton Ampner in Hampshire.
**2.00** **Live Athletics: Glasgow Grand Prix.** Gabby Logan presents coverage of the second day of the ninth Diamond League event of the season, which comes from Hampden Park.
**5.20** **Celebrity Mastermind.** Josh Widdicombe, Katharine Merry, Sian Reese-Williams and Nick Baker answer questions on Blur, Aston Villa FC, TV comedy Black Books and naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace. (R)
**5.50** **Pointless Celebrities.** Sporting special, featuring former boxer Joe Calzaghe, 16-time world darts champion Phil Taylor, former England rugby star Phil Vickery and Paralympic cyclist Sarah Storey. (R)
**6.40** **BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.
**7.00** **A Question of Sport: Super Saturday.** Olympic gold-medal-winning swimmer Rebecca Adlington, Strictly Come Dancing star Anton Du Beke, TV presenter Gethin Jones and BBC Breakfast's Louise Minchin take part.
**7.40** **The National Lottery: Break the Safe.** Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs compete to play for a cash prize. Includes the National Lottery results, presented by Kate Garraway.
**8.30** **Casualty.** A man carries out a carjacking in a desperate bid for money – but when he coughs up blood, it turns out there is something he has been keeping from his wife.
**9.20** **BBC News;** Weather.
**9.40** FILM: **Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003)** A rogue captain and a blacksmith set sail to rescue a governor's daughter from feared supernatural pirates. Swashbuckling fantasy adventure, starring Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Geoffrey Rush, Jack Davenport and Jonathan Pryce; **National Lottery Update.**
**11.50** FILM: **The Ruins (2008).** Hapless tourists exploring recently discovered Mayan ruins in Mexico are attacked by hostile villagers and carnivorous plants. Horror, starring Jena Malone and Shawn Ashmore.
**1.15** **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
**1.20** **BBC News.**

## BBC2

**6.00** **This Is BBC2.** Preview of upcoming programmes.
**6.35** FILM: **Blood on the Moon (1948).** A gunslinger is asked to back up his friend in a feud, but begins to realise he is on the wrong side in the conflict. Western, starring Robert Mitchum and Barbara Bel Geddes.
**8.00** **MOTD Kickabout.** Football show. (R)
**8.30** **World Cup Films.** A look back at the 2010 staging of the tournament, which was the first to take place on African soil, as 32 nations gathered in South Africa. Last in the series.
**9.45** **Coast.** Dick Strawbridge takes a perilous railway ride in Co Wicklow.
**10.05** **The Living Planet.** David Attenborough explores the deserts of the world. (R)
**11.00** **Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age.** The iron and steel industries. (R)
**11.30** **Great British Railway Journeys.** Michael Portillo explores the largest clay mine in the world. (R)
**12.00** **Rick Stein's Spain.** The chef embarks on a culinary tour in an old camper van, beginning in Galicia, where he hopes to discover places off the beaten track and sample rural dishes. (R)
**1.00** **Live Golf: The Women's British Open.** Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the third day at Royal Birkdale Golf Club, as the tournament won last year by American Stacy Lewis continues. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
**5.00** **Escape to the Country.** Searching for a rural property in north Devon. (R)
**5.45** **Flog It! Trade Secrets.** The team explores weird and wonderful items.
**6.15** FILM: **Catch Me If You Can (2002).** A conman lies his way across America, posing as a pilot, a doctor and a lawyer, while outwitting the FBI at every turn. Fact-based drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks.
**8.30** **Dad's Army.** The air-raid wardens have to share the church hall with the Home Guard after their HQ is bombed, but Hodge's men are terribly disruptive and soon cause mayhem. (R)
**9.00** **The Men Who Made Us Spend.** New series. Jacques Peretti investigates the methods used to persuade people to buy consumer goods, beginning by exploring the importance of limiting the lifespan of products.
**10.00** FILM: **The Shipping News (2001).** A small community helps a widower rebuild his family life when he and his daughter go to live with his estranged aunt. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey, Julianne Moore and Judi Dench.
**11.45** **Golf: Scottish Open.** Hazel Irvine presents highlights from the third round at Royal Aberdeen, where America's Phil Mickelson entered as the defending champion.
**12.45** FILM: **Black Sheep (2006).** A farmer performs genetic experiments on his flock of sheep, giving the animals an insatiable appetite for human flesh. Comedy horror, starring Nathan Meister and Peter Feeney.
**2.05** **This Is BBC2.** Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

## ITV

**6.00** **CITV:** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge **6.25** Dino Dan **6.35** Dino Dan **6.50** Canimals **7.00** Canimals **7.05** Sooty **7.20** Digimon Fusion **7.45** Mr Bean: The Animated Series **8.00** Adventure Time
**8.25** **ITV News.**
**8.30** **Weekend.** With Kacey Musgraves, Gary Numan and Chesney Hawkes.
**9.25** **The Hungry Sailors.** Dick and James Strawbridge travel to St Ives in Cornwall, where they visit a traditional town bakery which specialises in saffron buns before trying to create their own version. (R)
**10.25** **Murder, She Wrote.** A journalist is accused of murder. (R)
**11.20** **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
**11.30** **Storage Hoarders.** A woman sorts through her items of sentimental value. (R)
**12.30** **Dinner Date.** A man from London takes part in the dating show. (R)
**1.30** **Peter Andre's 60 Minute Makeover.** A foster parent's lounge and bedroom are given a facelift. (R)
**2.30** **The Nation's Favourite Motown Song.** Craig Charles counts down the legendary Detroit record company's 20 greatest hits, as voted for by the British public, with contributions by those who made pop history. (R)
**4.00** **Tipping Point.** Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)
**5.00** FILM: **Scooby-Doo (2002).** The dog and his chums reunite to solve a baffling mystery on the tourist resort of Spooky Island. Live-action comedy adventure, with Sarah Michelle Gellar and Matthew Lillard.
**6.35** **ITV News Central;** Weather.
**6.45** **ITV News and Weather.**
**7.00** **You've Been Framed!** Surreal comedy from the mind of Harry Hill, inspired by viewers' home videos. Aled Jones auditions for Daybreak, while Chris Moyles and family have fun with a Taser. (R)
**7.30** **Tipping Point: Lucky Stars.** Chat show host Jonathan Ross, champion boxer Carl Froch and Samantha Womack (EastEnders' Ronnie Mitchell) take turns on the token-pushing machine for charity. Ben Shephard presents.
**8.30** **FIFA World Cup Live 2014.** Matt Smith presents coverage of the third-place play-off (Kick-off 9.00pm), which is staged at the Estadio Nacional in Brasilia, Brazil. In the event of extra-time and penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to change.
**11.15** **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
**11.30** FILM: **Balls of Fury (2007).** The FBI recruits a washed-up former ping-pong champion to infiltrate an underground tournament run by a criminal mastermind. Comedy, starring Dan Fogler and Christopher Walken.
**1.05** **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
**3.00** **The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R)
**3.40** **ITV Nightscreen.**

## Channel 4

**6.05** **The Hoobs.** (R)
**6.30** **Trans World Sport.** With Martin Kaymer and Neymar.
**7.30** **FIM World Superbike Championship.**
**7.55** **The Morning Line.** A look ahead to this afternoon's racing.
**9.00** **Weekend Kitchen.** With Simon Callow and Rizzle Kicks. Last in the series.
**10.00** **Frasier.** A dream makes Frasier wonder if he is gay. (R)
**10.30** **Frasier.** Martin makes friends with a reclusive author. (R)
**11.00** **The Big Bang Theory.** (R)
**11.25** **The Big Bang Theory.** Amy and Wil Wheaton get into a fight while filming Fun with Flags. (R)
**11.55** **The Simpsons.** Homer puts on weight. (R)
**12.30** **The Tomorrow People.** Stephen breaks Ultra protocol during a training exercise.
**1.20** **Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Newmarket, York and Ascot.
**4.10** **Come Dine with Me.** A barber hosts the first dinner party in Liverpool. (R)
**4.40** **Come Dine with Me.** Rob Spicer hosts an evening with a historical-leader theme. (R)
**5.10** **Come Dine with Me.** Model Cynthia Umezulike hosts the third dinner party in Liverpool. (R)
**5.40** **Come Dine with Me.** Glen Simpson rustles up an Elvis-inspired dessert during the fourth party. (R)
**6.15** **Come Dine with Me.** Jilly Pollock hosts the fifth and final party in Liverpool, and hopes her black-tie event featuring ballroom dancing will ease tensions after the previous night's arguments. (R)
**6.45** **Channel 4 News.**
**7.05** **The Restoration Man.** George Clarke catches up with Simon Hooper and partner Victoria, who tried to convert a Grade I-listed medieval hall into a unique home in Cardiff. (R)
**8.00** **Grand Designs.** Kevin McCloud meets two artists who are battling the elements to construct a modern home on the Isle of Skye, with a second building alongside to use as their art studio. (R)
**9.00** FILM: **Knight and Day (2010).** A woman gets kidnapped and dragged into a rogue secret agent's mission to clear his name after he is framed as a traitor. Comedy adventure, starring Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz.
**11.15** **The IT Crowd.** Philip from the sixth floor asks Jen on a date – but Roy and Moss invite themselves along. Comedy, starring Katherine Parkinson, Chris O'Dowd and Richard Ayoade. (R)
**11.50** **The IT Crowd.** Denholm's death spells trouble for Jen and Roy – until support appears in the form of a mysterious stranger. Elsewhere, Moss finds a website that calculates when people will die. (R)
**12.25** **The IT Crowd.** (R)
**12.55** FILM: **Rushmore (1998).** Comedy drama, starring Jason Schwartzman.
**2.30** **Hollyoaks.** (R)
**4.40** **Deal or No Deal.** (R)
**5.35** **Kirstie's Vintage Gems.** (R)
**5.40** **The Hoobs.** (R)

## Channel 5

**6.00** **Milkshake!:** Peppa Pig **6.05** Roary the Racing Car **6.15** Abby's Flying Fairy School **6.25** Bubble Guppies **6.35** The Mr Men Show **6.50** Chloe's Closet **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas **7.20** Olly the Little White Van **7.25** Make Way for Noddy **7.40** City of Friends **7.55** Little Princess **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky **8.15** Angelina Ballerina **8.30** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures **8.35** Rupert Bear **8.45** Toby's Travelling Circus **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **9.15** Jelly Jamm **9.30** LazyTown
**10.00** **Access.**
**10.05** **Meerkat Manor.** (R)
**10.30** **The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies.** (R)
**11.30** **Big Brother: Eviction.** Another housemate gets the boot. (R)
**12.55** **NCIS.** The team protects the daughter of a foreign defence secretary. (R)
**1.50** **NCIS.** A marine's teeth and fingertips are found in a pickpocket's stolen purse. (R)
**2.45** **NCIS.** The agents learn one of their former assistants has been murdered. (R)
**3.40** FILM: **Pork Chop Hill (1959).** Korean War drama, starring Gregory Peck.
**5.40** FILM: **Fighter Attack (1953).** Second World War drama, starring Sterling Hayden.
**7.00** **Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents highlights from the fourth day of the First Test of the five-match series from Trent Bridge in Nottingham.
**7.55** **5 News.**
**8.00** **MH370: The Flight That Vanished.** The fate of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which was lost during its scheduled journey from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8. (R)
**9.00** **Big Brother.** Catching up with the Big Brother contestants as they react to Friday night's live eviction, revealing how another departure has affected the rest of the house.
**10.00** **The Trial of Gillian Taylforth.** Dramatic reconstruction based on transcripts and media coverage of the 1994 court case in which the former EastEnders star and her partner sued the Sun newspaper for libel.
**11.00** **Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole.** The documentary examining the lives of unemployed people visits Hull, which has one of the highest unemployment rates and lowest average weekly wages in the UK. (R)
**12.00** **Big Brother's Bit on the Psych.**
**1.00** **SuperCasino.**
**3.10** **Skyscraper: London's Cheesegrater.** (R)
**4.00** **House Doctor.** (R)
**4.25** **Make It Big.** (R)
**4.50** **The Funky Valley Show.** (R)
**5.00** **Angels of Jarm.** (R)
**5.10** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)
**5.20** **Angels of Jarm.** (R)
**5.30** **The Funky Valley Show.** (R)
**5.40** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)
**5.50** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

# SUNDAY

### Songs of Praise
*5pm*
Sally Magnusson and Diane Louise Jordan present the regular mix of music and worship from Glasgow as the final preparations for the Commonwealth Games get under way. Plus, a water-phobic father draws on his faith as he attempts to swim like a triathlete.

### Mock the Week
*10.30pm*
Host Dara O Briain and regulars Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons are joined by guests including Josh Widdicombe, Gary Delaney and Tiffany Stevenson on the topical comedy quiz. The panellists give their take on the week's major news stories and participate in a series of stand-up spots and improvised games.

### Catchphrase
*6pm*
Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show, asking three contestants to 'see it and say it' as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues. After the first elimination, the two remaining players battle to reach the Super Catchphrase round, where one of them could win £50,000.

### Deal or No Deal
*3.45pm*
Contestants try to beat the banker and guess the contents of mystery boxes to win a big-money prize. In a game-changing twist, players could now win up to £500,000 by doubling their winnings with box 23 – if they are brave enough to buy it with what they have already won. Noel Edmonds presents.

### The Boy They Call Fish
*8pm*
The story of a Vietnamese teenager who suffers from a rare skin condition, and his unlikely friendship with the Essex grandmother devoted to helping him. Minh Anh lives on a special ward of a hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, where both patients and staff call him Ka – the Vietnamese word for fish.

## BBC1

**6.00** **Breakfast.**
**9.00** **The Andrew Marr Show.**
**10.00** **Sunday Morning Live.**
**11.00** **Sunday Politics.** The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.
**12.15** **Bargain Hunt.** Experts Anita Manning and Charles Hanson help two teams with a love of the 1960s search for profitable antiques in London. Presented by Tim Wonnacott. (R)
**1.00** **BBC News;** Weather.
**1.15** **Alan Hansen: Player and Pundit.** A look at the respective careers of the ex-Liverpool star, who is soon to retire from his role at the BBC, which has seen him serve as an expert analyst after retiring as a player. (R)
**2.15** **Homes Under the Hammer.** Developers Lucy Alexander and Martin Roberts visit a detached cottage in Bodmin, Cornwall, a two-bedroom house in London and a plot of land in Tipton, West Midlands. (R)
**3.15** **Wanted Down Under.** Nicki Chapman helps Neil Connor and his partner Christopher King from Glasgow decide whether to begin a new life in Australia by showing them a selection of properties in Adelaide. (R)
**4.00** **Escape to the Country.** Alistair Appleton and Jonnie Irwin help two couples search for properties in Sussex, and offer tips on how to buy in the county.
**5.00** **Songs of Praise.** Sally Magnusson and Diane Louise Jordan present from Glasgow as the final preparations for the Commonwealth Games get under way.
**5.35** **BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.
**6.00** **Countryfile.** Matt Baker explores Whiteford Burrows sand dunes in Gower, south Wales, Adam Henson reveals the wonders of wool and cameraman Richard Taylor-Jones is on the lookout for fox cubs. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
**7.00** **Match of the Day Live.** Coverage of the final at the Estadio do Maracana in Rio de Janeiro (Kick-off 8.00pm), where the successors to 2010 champions Spain are crowned. This 20th staging of the tournament has been largely lauded as a great success, with a glut of goals, attacking football and some of the leading players in the world bringing their club form to the international stage. In the event of extra-time and penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to change.
**10.30** **BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.
**10.55** **Live at the Apollo.** Greg Davies hosts another session of stand-up at Hammersmith Apollo in west London, warming up the audience for Hal Cruttenden and Simon Evans. (R)
**11.25** FILM: **Man of the Year (2006).** A talk-show host is elected president, but faces a moral dilemma when he learns his victory was caused by a computer error. Comedy, with Robin Williams and Christopher Walken.
**1.15** **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
**1.20** **BBC News.**

## BBC2

**6.00** **This Is BBC2.** Preview of upcoming programmes.
**6.20** FILM: **Tender Comrade (1943).** Drama, starring Ginger Rogers.
**8.00** **Monty Don's French Gardens.** The most famous and interesting gardens in France. (R)
**9.00** **Gardeners' World.** Monty Don takes a look at uses for pots and containers. (R)
**9.30** **The Beechgrove Garden.** Jim McColl and George Anderson help with a new community garden in East Haven.
**10.00** **Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** Highlights of the series.
**11.30** **Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds.** The baker creates a luxury serving of fish pie.
**12.00** **Rick Stein's Spain.** The chef travels east toward the Mediterranean coast. (R)
**1.00** **Live Golf: The Women's British Open.** Coverage of the fourth day at Royal Birkdale Golf Club.
**5.20** **Natural World: The Bat Man of Mexico.** A biologist trying to save a species of bat vital to the production of tequila. (R)
**6.20** **Flog It!** David Barby and David Fletcher value heirlooms at Truro Cathedral, and Paul Martin learns about the disaster at Levant Mine near St Just in Cornwall.
**7.20** FILM: **Shall We Dance? (2004).** A bored lawyer signs up for dancing classes, but has to keep the new hobby a secret from his suspicious wife. Romantic comedy, with Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon and Jennifer Lopez.
**9.00** **The Night Watch.** One-off drama following the love affairs of four Londoners throughout three periods of the 1940s. Anna Maxwell Martin, Claire Foy, Jodie Whittaker and Harry Treadaway star. (R)
**10.30** **Mock the Week.** Josh Widdicombe, Gary Delaney and Tiffany Stevenson are among the guests joining regular panellists Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons on the topical comedy quiz. Dara O Briain hosts. (R)
**11.00** **QI XL.** Extended edition. Victoria Coren Mitchell, Sue Perkins and the Rev Richard Coles join Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of unusual questions about knights and knaves. (R)
**11.45** **Golf: Scottish Open.** Hazel Irvine presents action from the fourth and final round at Royal Aberdeen, where Phil Mickelson entered as the defending champion.
**12.45** **Sign Zone: Countryfile.** John Craven visits the Peak District set of BBC drama The Village. Helen Skelton discovers the links between the area and the British Raj, and gets tips on capturing animal photos. (R)
**1.45** **Sign Zone: Holby City.** Raf feels isolated from Amy, until a patient reminds him how much she means to him. (R)
**2.45** **Match of the Day: FIFA World Cup Replay.** Another chance to see the final at the Estadio do Maracana in Rio de Janeiro, where the successors to 2010 champions Spain were crowned.
**4.30** **This Is BBC2.**

## ITV

**6.00** **CITV:** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge **6.25** Dino Dan **6.35** Dino Dan **6.50** Canimals **7.00** Canimals **7.05** Sooty **7.20** Digimon Fusion **7.45** Mr Bean: The Animated Series **8.00** Deadtime Stories
**8.25** **ITV News.**
**8.30** **Weekend.** With Collabro, Alison Steadman and Ben Miller.
**9.25** **May the Best House Win.** Tours of four homes in Lincolnshire. (R)
**10.20** **Murder, She Wrote.** Guest starring Mickey Rooney and Tippi Hedren. (R)
**11.20** **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
**11.30** **Love Your Garden.** Transforming gardens across the nation.
**12.25** **Long Lost Family.** A 50-year-old woman hopes to find her birth mother. (R)
**1.30** FILM: **Columbo: Strange Bedfellows (1995).** The sleuth receives help from a gangland enforcer while investigating the deaths of a horse trainer's brother and a Mob bookie. Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Rod Steiger.
**3.30** **Midsomer Murders.** A masterpiece by a landscape artist is auctioned for £400,000 after a fierce bidding war – and hours later, its former owner is tortured and killed. David Bamber guest stars. (R)
**5.30** **ITV News Central;** Weather.
**5.45** **ITV News and Weather.**
**6.00** **Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000. (R)
**7.00** **FIFA World Cup Live 2014.** Coverage of the final at the Estadio do Maracana in Rio de Janeiro (Kick-off 8.00pm), where the successors to 2010 champions Spain are crowned. In the event of extra-time and penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to change.
**10.30** **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.
**10.45** **The Greatest Footie Ads Ever.** Paddy McGuinness presents this one-off programme guiding viewers through 30 years of incredible, bizarre, spectacular and much-loved football commercials. (R)
**11.45** **The Cube.** A student and a Geordie mother-of-one try to complete a series of increasingly difficult tasks in the hope of winning a jackpot of £250,000. Phillip Schofield hosts. (R)
**12.40** **The Store.** Home shopping.
**2.55** **Motorsport UK.** Highlights from Oulton Park, featuring the Ginetta GT4 Supercup and Renault UK Clio Cup. With commentary by Richard John Neil.
**3.45** **ITV Nightscreen.**
**4.15** **May the Best House Win.** The owners of some of Britain's most interesting and unusual homes invite one another to score their properties in several categories, with £1,000 awarded to the winner. (R)
**5.05** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)

## Channel 4

**6.05** **Ironman 2014.** The Ironman Asia Pacific Championships from Melbourne.
**6.30** **Ironman 2014.** The Ironman European Championships from Frankfurt.
**7.00** **Cholmondeley Pageant of Power.** Action from the motorsport event in Cheshire.
**7.30** **How I Met Your Mother.** Ted tries to get Robin invited to a wedding. (R)
**7.55** **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Part two of two. Ray proposes to Debra for a second time. (R)
**8.25** **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Ray has to stay with his parents. (R)
**8.55** **Frasier.** Niles hits the airwaves. (R)
**9.30** **Sunday Brunch.** With guests including Kevin McHale, Seann Walsh, Nicky Wire and Jimmy Doherty.
**12.30** **George Clarke's Amazing Spaces.** A couple who built a casino in their basement. (R)
**1.30** **The Big Bang Theory.** The friends try to solve the mystery of Sheldon's post-lunch activities. (R)
**2.00** **The Big Bang Theory.** Sheldon and Howard squabble over ownership of a university parking space. (R)
**2.25** **The Big Bang Theory.** Sheldon has to take care of Amy when she falls ill. (R)
**2.50** **The Simpsons.** Homer is reunited with his long-lost mother. (R)
**3.20** **The Simpsons.** Sideshow Bob escapes from jail. (R)
**3.45** **Deal or No Deal.** Beat-the-banker game show.
**4.50** FILM: **St Trinian's (2007).** Comedy, starring Rupert Everett.
**6.40** **Channel 4 News.**
**7.00** FILM: **Titanic (1997).** A society girl falls in love with a penniless artist during the liner's ill-fated voyage. James Cameron's Oscar-winning romantic drama, starring Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio. Edited for language and nudity.
**10.45** FILM: **The Running Man (1987).** A convict takes part in a brutal TV game show in which he is hunted by a series of gadget-wielding killers. Sci-fi action adventure, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Richard Dawson.
**12.40** **The Million Pound Drop.** Davina McCall returns with the 13th series of the quiz, featuring themed editions and celebrity contestants. Tonight, Stephen and Chris from Gogglebox play for charity. (R)
**1.35** FILM: **A Prophet (2009).** A crook is sent to a French prison dominated by rival Corsican and Muslim gangs, where he forms his own crime syndicate. Crime drama, starring Tahar Rahim and Niels Arestrup.
**4.05** **Home Road Movies.** Animation about a father's quest to become a better parent. (R)
**4.20** **River Cottage Veg Heroes.** (R)
**4.50** **Beat My Build.** Two sets of property developers compete to make the most profit renovating flats. The first crew transforms a unit in London, while the second treats another on the south coast. (R)
**5.45** **Deal or No Deal.** Beat-the-banker game show. (R)

## Channel 5

**6.00** **Milkshake!:** Peppa Pig **6.05** Roary the Racing Car **6.15** Abby's Flying Fairy School **6.25** Bubble Guppies **6.35** The Mr Men Show **6.50** Chloe's Closet **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas **7.20** Olly the Little White Van **7.25** Make Way for Noddy **7.40** City of Friends **7.55** Little Princess **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky **8.15** Angelina Ballerina **8.30** Milkshake! Show Songs **8.35** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures **8.40** Rupert Bear **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **9.15** Jelly Jamm **9.30** LazyTown
**10.00** **Access.** (R)
**10.05** **World's Scariest Near Misses.** (R)
**10.55** **Big Brother.** Daily round-up of highlights. (R)
**11.55** **Police Interceptors.** The work of Lincolnshire's Roads Policing Unit. (R)
**12.55** FILM: **See No Evil, Hear No Evil (1989).** Comedy, starring Richard Pryor and Gene Wilder.
**2.45** FILM: **Stand By Me (1986).** Coming-of-age drama, starring River Phoenix.
**4.20** FILM: **Click (2006).** A man gets his hands on a remote control that allows him to fast-forward through the dull parts of his life. Comedy, starring Adam Sandler.
**6.30** **Criminals: Caught on Camera.** Journalist Nick Wallis joins police forces around the nation to discover how CCTV and technological advances are helping to bring criminals to justice. (R)
**7.00** **Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the fifth day of the First Test of the five-match series from Trent Bridge in Nottingham.
**7.55** **5 News Weekend.**
**8.00** **The Boy They Call Fish.** The story of a Vietnamese teenager who has a rare condition that gives him scaly, fish-like skin, and his unlikely friendship with the Essex grandmother devoted to helping him. (R)
**9.00** **Big Brother.** Daily round-up of highlights, featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diary room visits and bedroom chit-chat. Narrated by Marcus Bentley.
**10.00** **Webcam Girls: At Your Service.** Documentary giving an insight into the world of women who work in the online adult entertainment industry from home, as they act out fantasies for their paying viewers. (R)
**10.50** FILM: **Step Brothers (2008).** Two 40-year-old men who have never left the family home are forced to share a room when their single parents marry each other. Comedy, starring Will Ferrell and John C Reilly.
**12.45** **True Crimes: The First 72 Hours.**
**1.15** **SuperCasino.**
**3.10** **Police Interceptors.** (R)
**4.00** **House Doctor.** (R)
**4.25** **Make It Big.** (R)
**4.50** **The Funky Valley Show.** (R)
**5.00** **Angels of Jarm.** (R)
**5.10** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)
**5.20** **Angels of Jarm.** (R)
**5.30** **The Funky Valley Show.** (R)
**5.40** **Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, July 10, 2014

# Glas shut up shop for draw with high-fliers

CAE GLAS were forced to hold out for a losing draw at Gatacre in their clash with high flying Tibberton in the Shropshire Cricket League division two, ***writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.***

A disciplined home bowling attack gave little away and saw Tibbo removed for 150 in 37 overs with the principal bowlers being Keith Yapp (2-34), Gareth Edgerton (2-29) and Ian Holgate who mopped up the tail to finish with 3-17.

The Cae Glas reply often stuttered with wickets falling a crucial times, but Ben Hipkiss crafted a patient 29 and all rounder Gareth Edgerton gave the innings some impetus with 23.

However, it was not enough as Glas had to close up shop and settle for a losing draw as they closed on 121-9 to secure nine points.

## Recovered

**CAE GLAS II** languish at the foot of the reserve division two table after their six wicket loss at Pontesbury.

Put in to bat, the Oswestry side were restricted to 113-5 in 40 overs, opener Peter Bowyer top scoring on 28 and Tim Smith the next highest contributor with the bat in making 18, James Churms taking 3-26.

The Glas made early inroads in Pontesbury's reply with four quick wickets, Matthew Coulson bagging 3-42 and Nick Chesters 1-20.

However the hosts recovered to ultimately ease to their target, Chris Edwards finishing unbeaten on 51 and Howard Robinson 24 not out.

# Ifton edged out in away day defeat

BATTLING to escape the basement zone, Ifton's bowlers put up a spirited showing before being edged out 8-6 at Archibald Worthington, missing out on the aggregate by just four shots.

Despite their efforts, the St Martins side remain third bottom in the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowls League, albeit with games in hand, and facing a tricky home clash with fourth placed Castlefields on Friday night.

It was nip and tuck against Archibald Worthington, but the home side took the four extra points on offer courtesy of an aggregate of 210-206.

Of their six winners, Adam Price was Ifton's most valuable player for his 21-11 win over John Paddington while Keiron Roberts weighed in with a 21-12 success.

Giles Evans won to 14, Brian Hayes and Dicky Jones were both 21-15 victors, while the other point came through Megis Phillips (21-17).

# Golf returns

**OSWESTRY**

**Club Championship – 36 Hole Medal:** G Evans 73-70=143. Advertiser Coronation Bowl 18 Holes AM: C Smith 72-5=67; J Howard 80-12=68; G Huggett 74-4=70. Peris Williams Putter 18 Holes PM Winner: R Burnett; I Evans 79-12=67; M A Williams 77-9=68; A Humphreys 79-10=69 (cb). **Bradley Bowl 36 Hole Combined Nett Score:** R Burnett 136; C Owen 137; C Male 141. Smith Carrington Cup 36 Hole Scratch: G Evans 143 (73-70); J Woodward 147 (76–71); S Litchfield 147 (73–74). **Thursday Medal:** J Poole 73-5=68; M Jenks 77-8=69; N Wilson 79-9=70 (cb); T Alexander 84-14=70; G Evans 72-1=71 (cb); J Harris 83-12=71 (cb).

# Heavy loss for Frankton

LOWLY FRANKTON remain deep in danger in the basement of the Shropshire Cricket League premier division after slipping to a 107-run loss at home to title chasing WORFIELD.

After inserting their visitors in to bat at a sunny Hardwick Park, the home attack toiled as the visiting batsmen profited to the tune of 285-5 in 50 overs, George Nock top scoring on 79 not out, while opener Tom Matthews cracked a lively 58 off just 39 balls. Nalaka De Silva was the most successful of the bowlers with 2-40 off 12 overs.

Frankton made a poor start in reply with a flurry of early wickets seeing them 37-4 before being revived by Jason Brookes (33), Thomas Welti (24) and 47 from skipper Jordan Parry.

However, they were eventually dismissed for 178 in the 42nd over, Gagandeep Singh taking 4-20, and suffered a defeat that keeps them languishing in the lower reaches of the table.

Bowlers held the upper hand as FRANKTON II notched a four wicket win over WORFIELD II in the reserve division one.

Put in the bat, Worfield limped to 99 all out, Stuart Lammie taking 7-36 and Richard Lammie 3-34, before opener Richard Jones (25) and Mark Lammie (23) helped knock off the runs with time and four wickets to spare.

FRANKTON III had a losing draw at WEM III in Division FourA, responding on 190-8 in 40 overs after their hosts had posted 220-3.

Dave Powell fell just four runs short of his century in Wem's innings when run out by Ollie Newman, opener Oliver Broomhall also weighing in with 68.

# Ton-up Jack the star

A BLISTERING assault from Jack Cockayne ensured Ellesmere kept up the title pressure in the Shropshire County Cricket League division two with a crushing 132-run victory at Iscoyd & Fenns Bank.

After seeing off the new ball, Cockayne put the beleaguered Fenns bowlers to the sword as he peppered the boundary to amass a huge 138.

Helped out by contributions down the order, Ellesmere plundered a huge 283-6 from their 40 overs, Lawrence Ashley weighing in with 45 and Tom Davies 30 not out.

Despite a solid platform of 99-1 off 20 in reply, Duncan Wright scoring 46, Fenns collapsed to 151 all out with three balls remaining, leaving Ellesmere emphatic winners with Jordan Evans taking 4-20, Fraser Duncan 3-26 and Laurence Ashley 2-24.

**KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY** are finding themselves in a basement scrap in division one despite a terrific last wicket partnership in their narrow loss at Forton.

Chasing 239-7 in 50 overs, the game looked to be up but a last wicket stand of 80 almost pulled off an unlikely victory before falling six runs short.

Put in to bat, openers Anthony Barrett (70) and Ian Roberts (59) laid the foundations for Forton's total with a 141-run stand for the first wicket, all rounder Nigel Wellings the pick of the bowlers with 4-37.

Despite Steven Gray's 60, Knockin looked to be toiling before Wellings (89) almost pulled off a stunning victory with fine support from No11 Marcus Williams (6no).

However, Wellings was finally dismissed with his side finishing six runs short on 233 off 46.3 overs following a thrilling finish, Chris Sayers taking four wickets.

# Oswestry slide to defeat after a batting collapse

**A BATTING collapse and dropped catches proved costly as Oswestry slipped back into the Birmingham Cricket League division one relegation zone after suffering a disappointing seven-wicket defeat at high-riding Ombersley.**

Mark Robinson's side were without their talisman all rounder Warrick Fynn, who was on honeymoon – but they could have gone a lot closer to snatching a surprise win if luck had gone their way.

Alex Huxley continued his run of good form after Oswestry lost the toss and were asked to bat on a rain-affected wicket.

Joe Clarke made an attractive 22, before Huxley (67) and Darren Papier (28) added 84 for the fourth wicket, and all looked well at 132-3.

Then came the type of collapse which has been all too familiar for Oswestry this season, and they were all out for 154, with the last four wickets adding just one run!

Paul Robinson bowled superbly for Oswestry when the home side went to the wicket, but had three catches dropped off his bowling.

## Wickets

Had they been taken, the visitors might have had a chance – but Liam Gwynne (67) and Worcestershire ace Gareth Andrew (61no) cashed in on their good fortune to take the home side to 155-3.

**OSWESTRY II's** batsmen let them down at Morda Road, where Brewood ran out victors by four wickets in their 2nd XI division (north) encounter.

Only Josh Coleridge (52) and Alun Morris (28) made much impression on the Brewood attack, as the home side were bowled out for 144.

Nick Williams took 3-42 in the Brewood innings, but the visitors took the spoils with 145-6.

**CRICKET**

**By John Bridgwater**

A sensational innings by Iwan Roberts saw **OSWESTRY III** team to victory against their St Georges counterparts in the Shropshire League division three.

Having bowled out the Dragons for 115, Oswestry looked in trouble when they lost four early wickets.

But Roberts smashed the ball to all parts of the ground, reaching his fifty in just 14 balls including five sixes in one over, and ending on unbeaten on 74.

With Dave Shaw making a steady 22 not out at the other end, Oswestry reached their target at 118-4, and continued their steady climb up the table.

Earlier Nick Woodcock (3-5) and Mike O'Reilly (3-52) were the most successful bowlers, and there was a wicket on his senior club debut for youngster Henry Platt (1-3).

A fine century by Scott Hale was the highlight for **OSWESTRY IV** as they played out a losing draw against a strong Shelton II team at Morda Road on Sunday.

Hale hit an undefeated 126 as Oswestry reached 184-4 in reply to Shelton's 221-9, of which Sam Nicholls made 87.

There were three wickets apiece for Oswestry's opening bowlers Allan Morris (3-39) and Domnic Kular (3-46).

Last night (Wednesday) Oswestry were looking to continue their good T20 season when they visited Wolverhampton in the quarter-final of the Birmingham League competition.

On Saturday they are back on League duty at Barnards Green in Malvern, the only team they have beaten so far.

The seconds are at home to Milford Hall Seconds, and the rhirds visit Acton Reynald, while the fourths play Shifnal IV at Morda Road on Sunday.

# Guils on the up after superb win

GUILSFIELD continued their climb in the Shropshire League division four with an emphatic 148-run win against rock bottom Bridgnorth III.

Having been flirting with basement danger a few weeks ago, the villagers are starting to look in far better shape as their batsmen hit the run trail to help their side towards mid-table.

Put in to bat, they declared on 275-4 in just 35 overs, opening bat David Harris leading from the top with 71 while fellow opener Gary Griffiths made 35.

Despite the loss of a couple of wickets mid-innings, all rounder Daniel Brown maintained the momentum with 67 before Tristam Curteiss (37no) and John Grieve (40no) also got in on the act in the latter stages.

Bridgnorth never threatened the total, before being dismissed for 127 in the 42nd over as the Guils kept up the good work following their last-ball win against Quayside the previous week. Grieve took 3-27 while there were two wickets apiece for Brown and Curteiss.

WELSHPOOL III suffered a close two wicket loss at home to Bomere Heath III in Division Four A after being dismissed for 118.

## Birmingham League

**PREMIER DIVISION**

| | P | W2 | L | A | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Berkswell | 11 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 166 |
| West Brom D'mth | 11 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 166 |
| Brockhampton | 11 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 145 |
| Barnt Green | 11 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 11 | 143 |
| Knowle & D | 11 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 13 | 9 | 139 |
| Kenilworth W | 11 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 16 | 114 |
| Shrewsbury | 11 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 11 | 17 | 113 |
| Dorridge | 11 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 18 | 107 |
| Walmley | 11 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 12 | 105 |
| Walsall | 11 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 25 | 94 |
| Kidderminster V | 11 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 17 | 20 | 81 |
| Himley | 11 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 14 | 25 | 78 |

**DIVISION 1**

| | P | W2 | L | A | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ombersley | 11 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 10 | 155 |
| Smethwick | 11 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 11 | 152 |
| Bromsgrove | 11 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 12 | 144 |
| Wolverhampton | 11 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 12 | 138 |
| Old Hill | 11 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 116 |
| Harborne | 11 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 16 | 114 |
| Barnards Green | 11 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 106 |
| Wellington | 11 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 102 |
| Moseley | 11 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 10 | 9 | 89 |
| Shifnal | 11 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 17 | 86 |
| Oswestry | 11 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 22 | 84 |
| Wombourne | 11 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 13 | 61 |

**DIVISION 2 (N)**

| | P | W2 | L | A | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tamworth | 11 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 158 |
| Smethwick | 11 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 145 |
| Brewood | 11 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 139 |
| Milford Hall | 11 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 15 | 138 |
| Penn | 11 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 132 |
| Oswestry | 11 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 114 |
| Whitchurch | 11 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 99 |
| Hawkins C & R. | 11 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 13 | 12 | 98 |
| Wombourne | 11 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 21 | 17 | 96 |
| Fordhouses | 11 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 94 |
| Newport | 11 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 20 | 63 |
| Quatt | 11 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 53 |

## Champion day at Henlle Park

**Over 60 Henlle Park members competed during the weekend with the course in excellent condition. Men's champion, for the third consecutive year, was George Hughes with a gross score 140 and the ladies champion was Sara Meehan, who has also won three years in succession, with a gross score 171. Nett champions were mother and son Brad Edwards, net score 132 and Di Edwards with a net score 147.**

**Packwood Haugh School's national under-13 girls rounders champions, back from left: Amelia Ashworth, Lottie Clarke, Rosie Simpson, Georgia Kannreuther, Amelia Maunder, Sophie Barlow; front: Phoebe Wasdell, Ellie Mason, Annabel Robertson, Tallullah Blackham, Freya Beasley, Sacha Sandbach.**

# Packwood golden year

PACKWOOD Haugh School's under-13 girls crowned their golden year of success by winning the Royal National Children's Foundation rounders competition to become national champions, writes STUART DUNN.

The team from the Ruyton XI Towns school achieved regional dominance in netball, hockey, lacrosse and cricket, but their rounders triumph topped the lot.

More than 50 teams from prep schools across the country entered the tournament.

Following a series of qualifying rounds in which the girls defeated Denstone College, Foremarke Hall and Beaudesert School, Packwood won through to the finals held at St Edward's School in Oxford. Packwood took on Lincolnshire's Witham Hall School in the semi-final and the girls extended their winning streak in convincing style to earn themselves a place in the final of the competition against Windlesham House, from West Sussex.

An exciting final saw Packwood eventually edging out Windlesham by 14 rounders to 13 and a half.

Packwood's Head of Physical Education, Kate Parry, was delighted with the girls' performance.

"It was particularly satisfying victory as Packwood has come so close in the past," she said. "We have reached finals day three times in the last 15 years but

## PLACINGS

### Shropshire County Cricket League

**PREMIER DIVISION**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Worfield | 11 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 122 | 2 |
| Reman Services | 11 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 219 | 4 |
| Wem | 11 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 119 | 0 |
| Bomere Heath | 11 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 216 | 4 |
| Ludlow & SS | 11 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 313 | 4 |
| St Georges | 11 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 113 | 3 |
| Wroxeter Grove | 11 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 112 | 2 |
| Cound | 11 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 211 | 4 |
| Newtown | 11 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 91 |
| Albrighton | 11 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 90 |
| Frankton | 11 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 75 |
| Allscott | 11 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 67 |

**DIVISION 1**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Madeley | 11 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 120 | 1 |
| Shelton | 11 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 118 | 0 |
| Broseley | 11 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 317 | 1 |
| Alberbury | 11 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 216 | 4 |
| Market Drayton | 11 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 215 | 5 |
| Forton | 11 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 211 | 4 |
| Welshpool | 11 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 211 | 0 |
| Lilleshall | 11 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 210 | 1 |
| Montgomery | 11 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 87 |
| Pontesbury | 11 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 82 |
| Knockin & Kinn | 11 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 81 |
| Much Wenlock | 11 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 7 |

**DIVISION 2**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tibberton | 11 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 219 | 7 |
| Ellesmere | 11 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 116 | 0 |
| Condover | 11 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 115 | 8 |
| Beacon | 11 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 215 | 7 |
| Shrewsbury III | 11 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 313 | 2 |
| Cae Glas | 11 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 312 | 6 |
| Willey | 11 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 312 | 3 |
| Wellington III | 11 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 211 | 2 |
| Iscoyd & FB | 11 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 310 | 7 |
| Bishops Castle | 11 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 96 |
| Corvedale CC | 11 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 74 |
| Shifnal III | 11 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 66 |

**DIVISION 3**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prees | 11 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 317 | 3 |
| Church Stretton | 11 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 116 | 0 |
| Wheaton Aston | 11 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 314 | 5 |
| Church Aston | 11 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 313 | 5 |
| Oswestry III | 11 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 313 | 2 |
| Llanidloes | 11 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 311 | 3 |
| Calverhall | 11 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 210 | 8 |
| Chelmarsh | 11 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 310 | 4 |
| Wroxeter Grove III | 11 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 210 | 1 |
| St Georges III | 11 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 96 |
| Acton Reynald | 11 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 87 |
| Newport III | 11 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 47 |

**DIVISION 4**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harpers | 11 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 218 | 6 |
| Ludlow & SS III | 11 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 416 | 5 |
| Overton-on-Dee | 11 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 216 | 0 |
| Hodnet & Peplow | 11 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 215 | 6 |
| Trysull & Seisdon | 11 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 115 | 0 |
| Whittington | 11 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 312 | 6 |
| Harcourt | 11 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 212 | 3 |
| Guilsfield | 11 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 211 | 1 |
| Hinstock | 11 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 99 |
| Coton Hall | 11 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 85 |
| Quayside | 11 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 66 |
| Bridgnorth III | 11 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 59 |

**DIVISION 4A**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wellington V | 11 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 021 | 4 |
| Whitchurch III | 11 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 016 | 7 |
| Alberbury III | 11 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 216 | 0 |
| Worfield III | 11 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 215 | 3 |
| Bomere Heath III | 11 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 314 | 2 |
| Welshpool III | 11 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 312 | 1 |
| Knockin & Kinn III | 11 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 211 | 4 |
| Frankton III | 11 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 111 | 2 |
| Cound III | 11 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 311 | 0 |
| Wem III | 11 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 210 | 7 |
| Madeley III | 11 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 110 | 6 |
| Reman Services III | 11 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 110 | 5 |

**DIVISION 5**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wroxeter Grove IV | 9 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 113 | 8 |
| St Georges IV | 10 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 212 | 5 |
| Quatt III | 10 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 212 | 0 |
| Wellington VI | 10 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 211 | 0 |
| Allscott III | 9 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 110 | 9 |
| Beacon III | 11 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 113 | 0 |
| Llanidloes II | 9 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 79 |
| Acton Reynald II | 9 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 75 |
| Corvedale II | 11 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 110 | 6 |
| Pontesbury III | 10 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 72 |
| Lilleshall III | 9 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 55 |
| Shrewsbury IV | 9 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 37 |

**RESERVE DIVISION 1**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reman Services II | 11 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 218 | 4 |
| Cound II | 11 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 115 | 8 |
| St Georges II | 11 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 515 | 8 |
| Ludlow & SS II | 11 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 115 | 7 |
| Wellington IV | 11 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 213 | 3 |
| Frankton II | 11 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 213 | 0 |
| Wem II | 11 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 313 | 0 |
| Madeley II | 11 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 312 | 3 |
| Worfield II | 11 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 311 | 9 |
| Alberbury II | 11 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 90 |
| Wroxeter II | 11 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 85 |
| Lilleshall II | 11 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 50 |

**RESERVE DIVISION 2**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bomere Heath II | 11 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 219 | 8 |
| Welshpool II | 11 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 119 | 0 |
| Beacon II | 11 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 115 | 6 |
| Condover II | 11 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 213 | 9 |
| Willey II | 11 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 313 | 2 |
| Pontesbury II | 11 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 211 | 2 |
| Knockin & Kinn II | 11 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 99 |
| Allscott II | 11 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 85 |
| Market Drayton II | 11 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 85 |
| Newtown II | 11 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 85 |
| Montgomery II | 11 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 76 |
| Cae Glas II | 11 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 74 |

**RESERVE DIVISION 3**

| | P | W | D | L | C/A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shelton II | 11 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 217 | 2 |
| Ellesmere II | 11 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 416 | 0 |
| Forton II | 11 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 213 | 6 |
| Broseley II | 11 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 412 | 9 |
| Shifnal IV | 11 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 212 | 9 |
| Bishops Castle II | 11 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 212 | 4 |
| Iscoyd & FB II | 11 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 212 | 3 |
| Albrighton II | 11 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 211 | 5 |
| Tibberton II | 11 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 211 | 5 |
| Ludlow & SS IV | 11 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 110 | 7 |
| Oswestry IV | 11 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 75 |
| Much Wenlock II | 11 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 70 |

# Tennis club defeat sees promotion hopes fade

OSWESTRY Tennis Club's first team suffered a setback in their promotion bid after going down to a hard-fought defeat against Team Mosaic 4 in their Shropshire doubles League clash.

In their first rubber, captain Gary Edwards, partnering Matt Grice, were challenged by a pair which included an 11-year old boy. However they did not let this faze them and successfully won the rubber in straight sets 6-1, 6-2.

They then had an epic battle against the Team Mosaic second pairing and, after dropping the first set 4-6 , they took the second set 6-3.

The duo then came back from 9-6 deficit in the deciding third set tie-break, saving the three match points before gaining two match points themselves only to eventually concede defeat 13 -11.

The second pair of Keith Grice and Steve Mosford struggled against the Team Mosaic second pairing as they lost in straight sets 1-6, 1-6.

However, they duo enjoyed a closer encounter against their first pairing taking the first set to five games all before going down 5-7 and never recovered, losing the second set 2-6.

This was a big setback in Oswestry's quest for promotion from this group having won three of their previous four fixtures.

The ladies first team had two home fixtures in Group 1, both against two of the strongest sides in the league, the first being against Bridgnorth.

Oswestry's second pairing of Jo Macrae and Kat Oakley lost it on a deciding third set tiebreak.

In the reverse rubbers, Jones and Malherbe showed their expertise taking it in straight sets but Macrae and Oakley had to retire.

Their second fixture was against Shrewsbury and Macrae and Oakley took early control of their first rubber but after mistakes they lost in the deciding third set tie break.

However, Jones and Malherbe continued their winning streak taking their rubber in straight sets.

In the reverse rubbers it was a similar result with both pairs winning in straight sets giving the Oswestry ladies an impressive 3-1 victory.

The Ladies second team were completely outclassed in their penultimate fixture of the season at Wem and they lost all four rubbers.

# Pool rugby players are in training

WELSHPOOL rugby players are back in action as they prepare for the new season in the Swalec League division three (north).

Training is now underway on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Maesysdre (7pm) with players of all ability and experience urged to come forward and play for the town.

"There really is rugby for everyone. There is no cost for training and we would love to see some new faces," said coach Dave Roberts.

For further information you can call Roberts on 07794-010799 or email to david@mobuscommunications.co.uk.

# Ellesmere B bowlers open gap at the top

HIGH-RIDING Ellesmere B opened up an eight point gap at the top of the Oswestry and District Bowls League division three with a 10-0 whitewash of Whittington E.

The hosts proved too hot to handle, taking the aggregate by 63 (168-105) with the in-form Alf Johnson and Mike Edwards both winning to seven, while Jeffery Birkett was a 21-11 victor.

Second placed ELLESMERE A lost ground after succumbing 7-3 (146-124) at WHITTINGTON B whose Richard Beaman took the coppers to seven to help his side up to third place.

Peter Williams was also in good form with a 21-10 success while Roger Barkley was the best reply to eight for the visitors.

Lowly CHURCH C went down 7-3 at home to Plas Kynaston A, losing 146-134 on shots, with Malcolm Williams and Tony Durrell both winning 21-13. Despite wins from Tom Owen (21-10) and Eric Galte (21-15), WESTON RHYN C suffered an 8-2 (151-128) reverse at Royston A.

FOX LANE stayed in sight of the leaders in division four with a tight 6-4 verdict at LLANRHAEADR C in which they took the shots by just one.

Simon Hayman, who is lying third in the averages, continued his good form with a 21-7 success for Fox Lane while Terry Coles also won 21-15. In reply, Mel Jones was the best for the hoss to 11 while Gelly Williams won 21-15.

LLANYMYNECH B remain in basement danger after their 7-3 (138-112) home loss to Bersham, despite good single figure replies from Kieran Jones and Basil Kirkham to seven and nine respectively.

WHITTINGTON D remain bottom of division five - but boosted their hopes of escaping the basement with a 7-3 (nine shots) home victory over LLANRHAEADR B.

Edward Williams led the way to take the coppers 21-4, Lorraine Turner also winning all to seven, while Marsh Howell kept the visitors in the hunt with a 21-6 reply.

LLANRHAEADR D, in fourth, also suffered a reverse when succumbing 8-2 (148-132) at Royston B, despite a fine 21-3 hand from Dave Hayward.

The closest game of the night in the division saw WHITTINGTON C finish 5-5 at CHURCH D after snatching the aggregate by just one shot.

Bill Jerman and Ivor Davies both won 21-11 for the visitors, with Garth Tudor prevailing 21-8 for the hosts.

Second placed YE OLDE CROFTE B stayed hard on the heels of the leaders in division six after securing a 7-3 (154-128) victory at LLANRHAEADR E. Bert Burton and Joan Lewis led the way 21-11. At the other end of the table, LLANFYLLIN slipped to a 9-1 loss at Johnstown E (159-85) to remain second from bottom, Jim Parry (21-11) notching their consolation.

**Results – Division two:** Johnstown C 7 Criftins C 3 (142-136). **Diviition three:** Ceiriog Valley B 7 Chirk B 3 (160-118), Whittington B 7 Ellesmere A 3 (146-124), Flexsys B 2 Johnstown D 8 (125-142), Church C 3 Plas Kynaston A 7 (134-146), Royston A 8 Weston Rhyn C 2 (151-128), Ellesmere B 10 Whittington E 0 (168-105). **Division four:** Llanymynech B 3 Bersham 7 (112-138), Weston Rhyn B Ceiriog Valley C, Ruabon B 8 Corwen B 2 (142-102), Llanrhaeadr C 4 Fox Lane 6 (144-145), Overton B 8 Llanfyllin A 2 (156-107), Llangynog C 6 Llangollen B 4 (144-133).

**Division five:** Cynwyd B 9 Criftins D 9-1 (156-108), Plas Kynaston B 7 Johnstown F 3 (155-129), Whittington D 7 Llanrhaeadr B 3 (134-125), Royston B 8 Llanrhaeadr D 2 (148-132), Church D 5 Whittington C 5 (140-141). **Division six:** Weston Rhyn E 3 Corwen B 7 (147-148), Ruabon C 10 Cynwyd C 0 (168-69), Johnstown E 9 Llanfyllin B 1 (159-85), Llanrhaeadr E 3 Ye Old Crofte B 7 (128-154).

# Irish eyes smiling on TNS ahead of big European ties

**FOOTBALL**

**By John Bridgwater**

**Cliftonville 0 The New Saints 1**

**THE New Saints wrapped up preparations for next week's Champions League meeting with FK Slovan Bratislava with a morale-boosting 1-0 friendly win over Cliftonville in Belfast.**

With both sides gearing up for European football next week, it proved a keenly contested encounter with the Saints repeating the one goal scoreline of their last previous two visits to Solitude.

Making several changes to their starting line-up, the Welsh Premier visitors had to soak up plenty of pressure from their hosts, whose Joe Gormley, George McMullan and Jay Donnelly all had chances in the second half.

And their resilience paid off when they snatched the spoils seven minutes from time when defender Connell Rawlinson headed home the only goal of the game from a corner.

Prior to that, Cliftonville had seen a host of chances come and go, with Johnny McMurray forcing a wonderful save from second choice keeper Chris Mullock in the first half.

Alex Darlington had a chance at the other end but was denied by Jaimie McGovern's clearance, and Mike Wilde went close with a headed effort, but for most part the home side posed the greater attacking threat.

After the interval, Mullock again demonstrated fine reflexes to claw a Martin Donnelly effort behind for a corner and McMullan's stinging half-volley was deflected on to the bar.

## Sponsorship

Substitiutes Martin Murray and Donnelly almost combined to break the stalemate but the latter was unable to make contact with Murray's arrowed cross, while defender Steve Evans was again the last line of defence after Jude Winchester had played McMullan into a threatening position.

Gormley then had a strike blocked by both Evans and Rawlinson, while Mullock reacted well to make a fingertip stop from Donnelly.

Almost inevitably, TNS found the net on their next attack when Rawlinson climbed highest to head home from a corner to put the Saints in good heart for next week's European assignment.

■ VCW Security, specialists in the distribution and marketing of IT security products, have renewed their sponsorship deal with The New Saints ahead of the forthcoming season.

The announcement follows the recent success that the club have had in becoming both Welsh Premier League and Welsh Cup champions during the 2013/14 season.

"This continues our great relationship with VCW Security and The New Saints Football Club is delighted to have renewed the sponsorship deal," said Ian Williams, chief operating officer at TNS.

"It also demonstrates the success that we are having at the club and with this sponsorship in place once again, we are looking at building on the success that has already been achieved."

**TNS line up (back from left): Ryan Jones, Aaron Simms, Kai Edwards, Aeron Edwards, Chris Marriott, Connell Rawlinson, Chris Seargeant, Luke Douglas, Greg Draper, Bernie Hirmer (goalkeeping coach); Middle: Gordon Evans (kit man), Scott Quigley, Phil Baker, Steve Evans, Paul Harrison captain, Chris Mullock, Alex Darlington, Chris Jones, Matty Williams, Dave Spendiff (physio); Front: Simon Spender, Jamie Mullan, Scott Ruscoe, manager Craig Harrison, Sam Finley, Ryan Fraughan, Mike Wilde.**

**Saints manager Craig Harrison leads training at The Venue ahead of the club's big European tests.** *Pic: Peter Shah.*

# TNS ticket news

TICKETS for TNS' Champions League second qualifying second leg tie with SK Slovan Bratislava at Rhyl on July 22 (6.45pm) have gone on sale. They can be purchased at The Venue, and also on line via the club's website.

Tickets must be collected from The Venue or from Rhyl's Corbett Sports Stadium on match day. They cost £20, and £10 for club members, season ticket holders, academy players and families. Hospitality tickets are priced at £30.

The club will be providing transport to Rhyl on the day at a cost of £5 per person, with coaches leaving The Venue at 4.45pm.

# Rose blooms with ace shot

THE time was right for an Oswestry golfer when he fired a hole-in-one during a club competition to be rewarded with a limited-edition watch as recognition for the achievement.

Jeremy Rose, 45, scored his ace on the 140-yard, par-three seventh at Mile End Golf Club, and the 18-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1 Club and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The luxury German brand has once again pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition in 2014 after giving away £600,000-worth of limited-edition mementos in 2013 - and Rose is among the latest to achieve the feat this year.

The scheme is open to any golfer whose club uses HowDidiDo - a free-to-use, web-based social network for golfers - and anybody playing in official club competitions is eligible. Currently, more than 1,800 clubs use the website.

Stephen Brydon, commercial director for MGS Distribution, the official licenced UK distributor for BOSS Watches, said: "Congratulations to Jeremy on achieving golf's Holy Grail of a hole-in-one.

"To the majority of amateur golfers, recording a hole-in-one will be the most memorable thing they achieve in golf – a once-in-a-lifetime experience probably – and we want to ensure they have much better memories than merely a dent in their bank balance after buying drinks in the clubhouse."

In addition to the limited-edition watch, Rose is also awarded membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1 Club.

No extra registration is required to participate in the BOSS Watches promotion as all official club competitions are recorded on the HowDidiDo system, so holes-in-one are noted and automatically ratified by the club.

## PLACINGS

### Oswestry Bowling League

**DIVISION 1**

| | P | W | L | D | Agg | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Johnstown A | 12 | 11 | 1 | 0 | +210 | 82 |
| Ceiriog Valley A | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | -223 | 73 |
| Ruabon A | 12 | 8 | 4 | 0 | +235 | 72 |
| Church A | 12 | 8 | 4 | 0 | +23 | 68 |
| Whittington A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +90 | 66 |
| Flexsys A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +68 | 61 |
| Criftins A | 12 | 8 | 4 | 0 | +54 | 61 |
| Chirk AAA A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +29 | 59 |
| Cynwyd A | 12 | 5 | 7 | 0 | -78 | 55 |
| Johnstown B | 12 | 3 | 8 | 1 | -182 | 48 |
| Corwen A | 12 | 2 | 9 | 1 | -237 | 42 |
| Llanymynech A | 12 | 1 | 10 | 1 | -435 | 33 |

**DIVISION 2**

| | P | W | L | D | Agg | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Llangollen A | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | +226 | 79 |
| Weston Rhyn A | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | +156 | 65 |
| Overton A | 12 | 7 | 5 | 0 | +15 | 65 |
| Llanrhaeadr A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +124 | 64 |
| George | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | -29 | 63 |
| Ye Olde Crofte A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +10 | 62 |
| Johnstown C | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +9 | 62 |
| Criftins C | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | +31 | 61 |
| Llangynog A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | -57 | 52 |
| Criftins B | 12 | 4 | 8 | 0 | -151 | 51 |
| Church B | 12 | 5 | 7 | 0 | -173 | 51 |
| Black Lion | 12 | 3 | 8 | 1 | -161 | 45 |

**DIVISION 3**

| | P | W | L | D | Agg | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ellesmere B | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | +419 | 86 |
| Ellesmere A | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | +329 | 78 |
| Whittington B | 13 | 9 | 4 | 0 | +148 | 75 |
| Plas Kynaston A | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | +136 | 70 |
| Johnstown D | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +9 | 62 |
| Chirk AAA B | 13 | 5 | 8 | 0 | -62 | 61 |
| Whittington E | 12 | 5 | 7 | 0 | +41 | 60 |
| Royston A | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | -88 | 60 |
| Ceiriog Valley B | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +6 | 55 |
| Weston Rhyn C | 12 | 3 | 9 | 0 | -164 | 45 |
| Flexsys B | 12 | 3 | 8 | 1 | -267 | 45 |
| Church C | 12 | 2 | 10 | 0 | -507 | 33 |

**DIVISION 4**

| | P | W | L | D | Agg | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ruabon B | 12 | 11 | 1 | 0 | +379 | 89 |
| Fox Lane | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | +246 | 75 |
| Bersham | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | +205 | 73 |
| Ceiriog Valley C | 11 | 6 | 5 | 0 | +139 | 66 |
| Llangollen B | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +112 | 64 |
| Overton B | 12 | 4 | 7 | 1 | -70 | 56 |
| Llanrhaeadr C | 12 | 5 | 6 | 1 | -128 | 56 |
| Llangynog C | 12 | 5 | 7 | 0 | -89 | 50 |
| Llanfyllin A | 12 | 4 | 7 | 1 | -190 | 48 |
| Corwen B | 12 | 2 | 9 | 1 | -154 | 47 |
| Llanymynech B | 12 | 3 | 8 | 1 | -270 | 44 |
| Weston Rhyn B | 11 | 4 | 7 | 0 | -180 | 42 |

**DIVISION 5**

| | P | W | L | D | Agg | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cynwyd B | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | +225 | 76 |
| Johnstown F | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | +170 | 72 |
| Plas Kynaston B | 12 | 7 | 4 | 1 | +127 | 69 |
| Llanrhaeadr D | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | +79 | 67 |
| Overton C | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | +135 | 66 |
| Church D | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | +42 | 61 |
| Royston B | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 | -54 | 57 |
| Chirk AAA C | 12 | 4 | 7 | 1 | -126 | 56 |
| Llanrhaeadr B | 12 | 5 | 7 | 0 | -77 | 55 |
| Criftins D | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 | -68 | 54 |
| Whittington C | 12 | 4 | 7 | 1 | -127 | 51 |
| Whittington D | 12 | 2 | 9 | 1 | -326 | 36 |

**DIVISION 6**

| | P | W | L | D | Agg | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ruabon C | 10 | 8 | 2 | 0 | +420 | 74 |
| Ye Olde Crofte B | 10 | 7 | 3 | 0 | +354 | 70 |
| Johnstown E | 10 | 6 | 4 | 0 | +222 | 61 |
| Weston Rhyn D | 9 | 6 | 3 | 0 | +41 | 53 |
| Church E | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | -214 | 46 |
| Llangynog B | 9 | 5 | 4 | 0 | +32 | 45 |
| Weston Rhyn E | 10 | 4 | 6 | 0 | -58 | 45 |
| Llanrhaeadr E | 10 | 1 | 8 | 1 | -291 | 34 |
| Llanfyllin B | 10 | 3 | 7 | 0 | -220 | 33 |
| Cynwyd C | 10 | 3 | 6 | 1 | -286 | 29 |

### Minsterley & District Rounders League

**DIVISION 1**

| | P | W | L | D | F | Ag | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Borders Belles | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 93 | 549.5 | 30 |
| Morton | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 123 | 66 | 25 |
| Welshpool | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 85.5 | 93 | 15 |
| Oswestry | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 68 | 90 | 13 |
| Severn | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 3954.5 | | 10 |
| Plough | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 6793.5 | | 10 |
| Leighton | 6 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 69.5 | 99 | 3 |

**DIVISION 2**

| | P | W | L | D | F | Ag | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Peacock | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 102 | 548.5 | 30 |
| Pontesbury | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 88 | 47.5 | 25 |
| Kinnerley | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 86.5 | 62 | 20 |
| Middletown | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 60 | 76.5 | 10 |
| Horseshoe | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 56 | 103.5 | 10 |
| Nesscliffe | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 69.5 | 90 | 5 |
| Shoegirls | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 56 | 90.5 | 5 |

**DIVISION 3**

| | P | W | L | D | F | Ag | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Westbury | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 62 | 30 |
| Mytton | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 86 | 53 | 20 |
| Wheatsheaf | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 68.5 | 72 | 20 |
| Minsterley | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 63 | 57.5 | 15 |
| The Bell | 5 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 50.5 | 77 | 5 |
| Beacon | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 65 | 92.5 | 5 |
| Black Lion | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 63 | 97 | 5 |

### Saxonby Shrewsbury & District Evening Cricket

**DIVISION 1**

| | P | W | D | L | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wem II | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 22 | 116 |
| Grasshoppers | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 14 | 78 |
| Shelton | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 15 | 20 | 70 |
| Cound | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 20 | 18 | 68 |
| Bomere Heath | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 16 | 50 |
| Wroxeter Grove | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 10 | 6 | 16 |

**DIVISION 2**

| | P | W | D | L | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Frankton | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 30 | 21 | 111 |
| Condover | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 28 | 107 |
| Knockin & K | 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 21 | 19 | 85 |
| Beacon | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 18 | 14 | 62 |
| Bedouins | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 16 | 8 | 24 |
| Coton Hall | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 14 | 10 | 24 |

**DIVISION 3**

| | P | W | D | L | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Welshpool | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 17 | 15 | 72 |
| Alberbury | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 19 | 19 | 68 |
| Prees | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 64 |
| Pontesbury | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 16 | 9 | 55 |
| Allscott | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 15 | 46 |
| Rough & Tumblers | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 10 | 41 |

**DIVISION 4**

| | P | W | D | L | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wroxeter Grove II | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 28 | 24 | 92 |
| Iscoyd & FB | 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 19 | 15 | 79 |
| Whittington CC | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 15 | 74 |
| Old Post Office | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 22 | 21 | 73 |
| Acton Reynald | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 25 | 16 | 61 |
| Welshpool II | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 14 | 56 |

**DIVISION 5 AMBER**

| | P | W | D | L | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beacon II | 8 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 22 | 25 | 122 |
| Wem II | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 17 | 24 | 81 |
| Market Drayton | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 14 | 54 |
| Calverhall | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 12 | 44 |
| RAF Shawbury | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 11 | 40 |
| S'bury Rugby | 6 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 12 | 28 | |

**DIVISION 5 EMERALD**

| | P | W | D | L | Bat | Bwl | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Frankton II | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 17 | 24 | 91 |
| Beacon III | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 24 | 79 |
| Ellesmere | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 17 | 57 |
| Bomere Heath II | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 13 | 10 | 53 |
| Brickayers C' | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 15 | 51 |
| Cae Glas | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 13 | 14 | 47 |

## Promotion rivals are locked in 5-5 draw

LLANRHAEADR were locked in a 5-5 draw at home to promotion rivals Weston Rhyn in division two of the Oswestry and District Bowling League.

It was nip and tuck between two sides lying in the top four of the table, youngster David France and Steve Jones both winning 21-12 for the hosts, with Ian Jones also having a 21-13 card.

It was all square at 2-2 at the half way mark, Llanrhaeadr then pushed ahead, but Rhyn earned a share of the spoils by taking the aggregate by just one shot 137-136 after Derek Taylor won his match 21-6.

GEORGE moved into third with their 7-3 (134-114) home success against Johnstown C, with John Hughes and Andy Knott leading the way to five and nine respectively.

Merv Weaver's 21-6 card helped CHURCH B to a 7-3 (149-135) home verdict against Llangynog A, Will Lewis also prevailing to 12.

The best game of the night saw Adrian Jones hit back from 10-0 down to lead 19-18 before losing 21-19.

LLANYMYNECH A remain marooned at the foot of division one after being edged out by four shots in their 6-4 home loss to Chirk A despite having led 3-1 after the front four.

Paula Worden and Clive Roberts both turned in single figure hands to five and seven respectively, but Llany were unable to capitalise as they were pipped 118-114 on aggregate.

Defeat leaves them 12 points adrift of Corwen A who were 7-3 (149-140) winners against Johnstown B.

There was a thriller at WHITTINGTON A who beat Ruabon A by one shot (150-149) on their way to a 6-4 verdict, Mike Brunt winning 21-12. Johnstown A are eight points clear at the top after their 8-2 (156-95) beating of Flexsys A.

## Same start for Village

JUST as last season, Llansantffraid Village kick off the new Spar Mid Wales League division one campaign with a home fixture against local rivals Welshpool on Friday, August 15.

Llanrhaeadr, relegated from the Cymru Alliance last term, start off at home to Carno on Saturday, August 16, while Montgomery entertain new-boys Penrhyncoch and Four Crosses welcome Llanfair United.

## Saints heading to Slovakia in confident mood

AFTER an unbeaten build-up, The New Saints can go into next week's UEFA Champions League showdown with SK Slovan Bratislava in optimistic mood.

The Saints won all three of the friendlies, hitting six goals past Cefn Druids and Aberyswyth Town, before negotiating their biggest test in Belfast last Saturday when earning a 1-0 success at Cliftonville.

It was their last significant run-out before their Champions League second qualifying round first leg tie at Slovan Bratislava next Tuesday, July 15 (7.15pm) before hosting the Slovakian outfit at Rhyl the following week (6.45).

And manager Craig Harrison will be heartened by the performances after the Saints secured a hard-fought 1-0 win at high flying Cliftonville who themselves tackle Hungarian side Debreceni next week.

He knows, however, his side will have to be at their best against the Slovakians who, despite no longer the force of their illustrious past, will nevertheless still be formidable, particularly at home in front of their partisan fans.

"In the Champions League, we know they are all good teams. It's going to be tough over there, but we feel we've got a chance," said Harrison

"But it's a little bit different this year as it's the first time we've been away in the first leg since I've been here. For the last two years, we've been at home for the first leg."

Last season, TNS went out 4-1 on aggregate to Polish high fliers Legia Warsaw, and have only once before reached the third qualifying round of the Champions League when losing against Anderlecht.

But Harrison believes the Saints – who are now in their 17th season on the European stage – can go into the tie with plenty of confidence.

"We gave a really good account of ourselves when we played Legia Warsaw last season, and we don't expect Slovan Bratislava to be quite as strong, but you never know," he added.

"We've been training hard, everyone's looking in good shape and we're now looking forward to the Champions League which will be a great occasion for the club."

Slovan are the only Slovakian club to win one of the European cup competitions, defeating Barcelona in the Cup Winners' Cup in 1969.

The club also supplied seven players to the victorious UEFA Euro 1976 Czechoslovak team.

But recent European performances have not been as impressive, losing 4-2 on aggregate to Ludogorets Razgrad of Bulgaria in last season's Champions League and on away goals to Hungarian outfit Videoton in the previous season's Europa League.

They reached the Europa League group stage in 2011/12 after beating Roma in the play-off round, but gained just one point from a tough group against Athletic Bilbao, Red Bull Salzburg and PSG.

# OSWESTRY BOOST AS FYNN RETURNS

**by John Bridgwater**

**ALLROUNDER Warrick Fynn is back to give Oswestry's cricketers a boost as they start the second half of the Birmingham League division one campaign chasing much-needed points at Barnards Green.**

The newlywed missed last weekend's seven wicket loss at high flying Ombersley as he was away on honeymoon, with the defeat seeing the Morda Road men drop back into the relegation places in the table.

But he is now back to spearhead the batting on Saturday and provide his left arm spin as Mark Robinson's side head to Malvern in search of a timely tonic.

Despite their league plight, they can make the trip in confident mood having defeated Barnards Green on the opening day of the season - the only team they have beaten so far.

Oswestry ran out 28 run winners that day, with Fynn taking four wickets with his spin to help set up the victory. Since then, they have gone 10 games without a victory to lie in the bottom two.

### Positive

"It's good to have Warrick back, we don't have to do without him very often, and it was a shame we couldn't get many points without him last week," said captain Mark Robinson.

"When we're at full strength we back ourselves against anyone, but we need to start putting more runs on the board. We had two positive results before last week, but Barnards Green also have players back and they'll be stronger than when we played them at the start of the season."

A batting collapse proved costly at Ombersley last weekend, with the visitors looking good on 132-3, Alex Huxley making 67, before slumping to 154 all out, with the last four wickets falling for just one run.

Paul Robinson bowled superbly for Oswestry in reply but had three catches dropped as the leaders, with their strong batting line-up, capitalised on their good fortune to reach their target with three wickets down. The visitors returned with just two points.

"When we were 132-3 we were looking at getting over 200 which would have been competitive, but to lose seven wickets for 20 runs took the wind out of our sails," added Mark Robinson.

Oswestry are on the trail of some silverware on Friday they take on Shifnal in the Salop Caravans Twenty20 Knockout at Shrewsbury.

## All-rounder Milly is in five county sides

**The talented Milly Home, 13, from Moreton Hall School, who represents the county in five different sports**

AT 13 years old Milly Home has the big leagues in her sights – as she is already representing the county in five sports.

Milly, from Newport, is a pupil at Moreton Hall School near Oswestry, where she competes in lacrosse, hockey, cricket, athletics and netball.

She said: "I've grown up in a family where sport has always played a major role. I've been very been very much encouraged from an early age to take part in a variety of different sports. I really enjoy the opportunity to do something that I love and to see the benefits of your hard work immediately. I enjoy the challenges that sport brings."

Milly currently represents her five different sports at county level or above. Two weeks ago she went for an England observation day in cricket where she is hoping to be selected onto the U15 development programme, and in lacrosse she has been selected for the regional academy.

## Welshpool looking to maintain momentum

IMPROVING Welshpool look to maintain their upturn in fortunes in the Shropshire Cricket League division one when they host Market Drayton on Saturday.

After a sluggish start to the season, Pool have moved up to mid-table courtesy of a winning draw and two victories in their last three outings.

The most recent of those wins was last weekend when the Maesydre men recorded a five-wicket home success over Powys rivals Montgomery to continue their revival as they head into the second half of the season.

Buoyed by recent results, they will be keen to turn the tables on a Drayton side who ran out convincing 144-run winners when the sides met on the opening day.

"That result flattered them, and it will be a different game when they come to us on Saturday," said vice-captain Joe Birch.

"If we can keep posting totals, then we back ourselves to defend them with our bowling and fielding."

Rhys Williams and Rob Pengelly return, but Mat Mcwhinnie is unavailable

Electing to bat first last week, Monty were made to work hard for the runs before being dismissed for 123 in 47 overs on a tricky surface. Rob Bennett made 24 while there were four wickets for Sam Birch and three for Joe Monk.

Pool batted patiently before getting home for the loss of five wickets in the 48th over, opener Joe Birch continuing his fine form to carry his bat for an unbeaten 58.

The crucial stand came for the fourth wicket with Birch combining with Tom Anderson (33) as they put on over 60.

""They bowled well and made it difficult for us, and had myself or Tom got our early on, it could have been tricky, but in the end it was another good win for us," said Joe Birch.

Monty, who have now slipped below Pool in the table, will be out to halt the slump when they visit Lilleshall on Saturday.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